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POLL RESULTS

Do you intend to participate in the Saipan casino survey that will be conducted this week?

Yes 41
No 50

Sunday, November 06, 2011

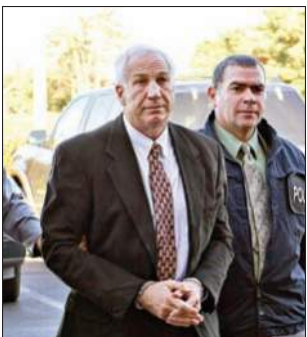
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Fitial is new GOP president

» Babauta steps down to focus on new job

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Juan N. Babauta stepped down as the CNMI Republican Party president Saturday night during the party's general membership meeting where about a hundred members unanimously approved the selection of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to replace him.



Fitial



Babauta

Babauta's resignation was the result of his appointment to the new healthcare corporation as its chief executive officer. In his message to members, he emphasized the need to devote his undivided time to his new responsibilities.

Fitial won the seat unopposed during Saturday night's assembly at Garapan Central Park.

Babauta said that Fitial's selection was made in accordance with the party's rules and bylaws and he is confident in the advantages it will bring not only to the local party but to the entire Commonwealth as well.

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Saipan voters nix casino

» 425 said no;
416 said yes

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Only nine votes separated the opponents and supporters of plans to legalize casinos on Saipan, with the nine-vote majority going to those who oppose the proposal.

Based on the official results of the survey conducted by the Northern Marianas College's Current Issues class on Friday, over 800 registered

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VETERANS WEEK

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, seated, has his picture taken with CNMI Veteran Affairs Office director Vicente C. Camacho, his predecessor Ruth Coleman, VFW 6457 commander Mariano Fajardo, and other veterans after signing the Veterans Awareness Week proclamation last Thursday at the Governor's Office conference room.

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Fitial slams stateside lawyers as 'jerks'

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial lashed out at two U.S. mainland lawyers for dispensing legal advice to alien workers in the CNMI and washed his hands of any responsibility for these workers if they go out of status by Nov. 27, 2011, saying it's not him but the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 that sealed their fate.

"These two lawyers are both jerks because if they look at the CNRA, that's the federalization statute, Public Law 110-229. It's very clear Congress wants to weed out all the people who are considered a burden here in the

Commonwealth," he told reporters Friday on Capital Hill.

Fitial also said that if U.S. Pinoy for Good Governance president Loida Nicolas Lewis and legal counsel Ted Laguatan want to help soon-to-be-out of status alien workers, they should do it legally.

"If you are illegally employed or unemployed, you don't have a business staying here because you are a burden. That's very clear. That's not my intention, that's the intention of Congress under PL 110-229, so if these two jerks are going to continue to jerk nonresident workers around they better get a business license first," he said.

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Trader sues Obama over federalization law

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A local businessman is suing U.S. President Barack Obama and some of his Cabinet members to stop the implementation of the federalization law, which, according to him, is lawfully unenforceable in the CNMI.

Joaquin Q. Atalig, through counsel Joseph E. Horey, asserted in the lawsuit he filed in federal court on Friday that the enforcement of the Consoli-

dated Natural Resources Act of 2008 affects his personal, professional, and political capacities.

Atalig is the proprietor of the Sunrise Hotel on Rota and certain rental apartment buildings on Saipan.

Aside from Obama, Atalig also named as co-defendants Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, State Secretary Hillary Clinton, U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, and U.S. Attorney

See TRADER on Page 4

Local

Aldan is Kagman High School's most outstanding educator

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

"Art is everywhere. Art is life."

This is what art teacher Peter Aldan always tells his students so they can better understand and appreciate its importance in everyday life.

Aldan, who has been an art teacher at Kagman High School for four years now, obtained his bachelor's degree in art from the University of Hawaii in Manoa and immediately came back to impart his knowledge to Commonwealth students.

His goal? To inspire them to explore, do their best, and strive for excellence in whatever field they want to pursue.

Aldan was bestowed the school's prestigious Teacher of the Year honor for his exemplary performance and dedication. This is his first time to be selected for the honor and he credits it to the effective collective efforts of the KHS community: its management, staff, students, and parents.

Aldan is from a family of educators, having both parents who've taught in elementary



Kagman High School educational award winners pose for a group photo with their administrator during a visit Friday on campus. Sitting from left are Maintenance of the Year Lucy Mongami, Librarian of the Year Gina Lynn Camacho-Sanbilay, Counselor of the Year Sharon San Nicolas, and standing from right are Principal Alfred Ada, Teacher of the Year Peter Aldan, Instructor of the Year James Burk, and Support Staff of the Year Clifford Nekai.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

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public schools, but his desire to become a teacher was also influenced by his college experience. "Fortunately, I am one of the students who was able to leave Saipan to study and see the outside world. I feel that it would be nice for these students to experience the same...and then come back and teach what you've learned from those experiences."

Aldan shared that the world of art teaches students to see beyond the surface and helps them become more critical and analytical thinkers.

"Art class helps students see things behind those colors and shapes. I teach them not only to just look for something but perceive it so they can have a deeper awareness. A chair, for example, there's a purpose and history that you can see behind it," he said. These approaches, he said, are key to solving problems in all content areas.

Aldan attends to an average of 75 students from 9th to 12th grades everyday. Despite his limited time with them, Aldan finds these moments the most rewarding.

"Despite having only an hour with them everyday, you can really establish a good relationship with the students because we also teach about character, citizenship, and being responsible, which would help them become productive in life," he said.

One of the greatest lessons Aldan has learned from teaching students is that what you instill in them will be returned to you the same way. "They are different persons and you cannot treat them all the same. As a teacher, you have to use different approaches because they learn in their own different ways. Because you show them respect, you will receive respect from them. They acknowledge you because you acknowledge them as well. Just seeing students in the hallways saying 'good morning' or 'thank you' are enough reward for me," he said.

Other awardees

This year's Support Staff of the Year is Clifford Nekai, the

school's truant officer for four years now. The first-time awardee said he is truly honored by the recognition and vows to continue doing his best for students. Nekai ensures the safety and well-being of students on campus. Among his tasks is making sure that parents are informed about their children's situation in school and he assists teachers and staff in ensuring that all students are in classrooms on time.

KHS conferred its Maintenance of the Year award on Lucy Mongami, a PSS employee for 11 years. Mongami started at Marianas High School in 2003, then she moved to Kagman High in 2006. This is her first award from PSS.

Named Librarian of the Year is Gina Lynn Camacho-Sanbilay, who has been with Kagman High since 2009 and was also the school's Support Staff of the Year last year.

Besides assisting students in their daily needs at the school library, Camacho-Sanbilay also works with students who seek her advice and guidance. "I love this job and I know I still have so much to learn for our students."

She accommodates an average of 700 students at the library each day, including about 200 students who frequently visit the facility.

James Burk, the senior Army instructor for the JROTC program, was bestowed the Instructor of the Year award. He has been serving PSS for 14 years since 1998 and was the one who started the program at KHS when it was built in 2001.

Burk first served MHS for almost three years from 1998-2001 before joining Kagman High. Prior to these positions, he worked at the University of Guam's JROTC program for three years. This semester, Burk is handling 106 students.

"It's always nice to be recognized. This is my first time and I appreciate it," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Among Burk's proudest moments was the recent visit of the director of the U.S. JROTC during which KHS was rated No. 1 in the nation

See **ALDAN** on Next Page

AG violated Hatch Act, says US Office of Special Counsel

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Evidence suggests that Attorney General Edward Buckingham violated the Hatch Act when he invited staff from his office to attend an August 2010 campaign party for recently confirmed Superior Court associate judge Joseph N. Camacho, who was then running for delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

This was according to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel in its letter to human rights advocate and former Rota public school teacher Wendy Doromal, who asked the OSC to look into Buckingham's purported violation of the Hatch Act.

"The evidence suggests that Mr. Buckingham violated the Hatch Act by using the authority of his office to support a partisan political candidate," the letter from OSC attorney Mariama Liverpool reads.

She said, however, that the U.S. Office of Special Counsel is closing the matter "without further action."

The Hatch Act restricts the political activity of individuals principally employed by state, country, or municipal executive agencies in connection with pro-

grams financed in whole or in part by loans or grants by the U.S. or a federal agency.

Although the matter is now considered closed, the OSC letter said it has already warned Buckingham that further Hatch Act violations would result in dire consequences.

"We have advised Mr. Buckingham that should he again en-

gage in Hatch Act prohibited activity while employed in a Hatch Act covered position, we would consider such activity to be a knowing and willful violation of the law that could result in his removal from his employment," wrote Liverpool.

OSC said it determined that Buckingham was covered by the Hatch Act because the Attorney General's Office was receiving federal grants from the U.S. Department of Justice in 2010, including the Violence Against Women Act grant, Domestic Violence Prosecution Program grant, Interagency Financial Crimes and Drug Taskforce grant, and a Juvenile Criminal Prosecution Program grant.

"As attorney general, Mr. Buckingham is the head of the

Attorney General's Office, and as such, it appears normal and foreseeable that in 2010 he had duties in connection with the aforementioned grants," the OSC letter states.

OSC said it based its decision on an email the attorney general's executive assistant sent to OAG employees on Aug. 19, 2010, informing them that Buckingham and his office will be hosting a gathering for delegate candidate Camacho.

Part of the email reads: "As our AG has said, this gathering is not mandatory, but it would be nice to see our attorneys and staff come and enjoy the food, drinks and view and be able to socialize with other people throughout the night while this gathering is ongoing."

Buckingham should resign

On her website (www.unheardnomore.blogspot.com), Doromal said that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial should immediately fire Buckingham but doubts that will ever happen.

"If the governor respected the law and the people of the CNMI, he would fire AG Buckingham immediately. But he won't. If

continuous effort to provide quality services to its consumers and the community by enhancing the knowledge, expertise, and skills of its personnel.

The training was funded by a Community Services & Social Services block grant. (DYS)

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Buckingham

the attorney general respected the law and the people of the CNMI, he would resign immediately. But he won't. Not only did AG Buckingham violate the federal Hatch Act, but according to the Office of the Public Auditor he violated CNMI ethical and election laws," she said.

"Hatch Act violations are serious, especially when committed by the Attorney General who is the highest ranking legal authority in any state or territory. He should be enforcing and upholding the law, not breaking the law. Attorney General Edward Buckingham should

resign immediately," she added.

Doromal however said that it's unfortunate that OSC did not take action and wrote: "Perhaps the federal attorneys assume that when the news is made public, the AG would resign. After all it is not acceptable that the attorney general cannot follow the law."

Buckingham: OSC has made no inquiries

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham said yesterday that the U.S. Office of Special Counsel has not made any inquiries with him about the dinner his office hosted during which then delegate candidate Joseph Norita Camacho was present.

Saipan Tribune sent an email to Buckingham requesting for comment about U.S. Office of Special Counsel's letter to human rights advocate Wendy Doromal dated Oct. 28, 2011. In that letter, the U.S. Office of Special Counsel said that evidence suggests that Buckingham violated the Hatch Act by using the authority of his office to support

a partisan political candidate.

In his reply, Buckingham noted that after the dinner there were comments critical of his activity so he immediately offered the public an apology for the "perception" created among those who were critical of the event.

"I stand by the apology. However, at no time did I ever endorse Joe Camacho—or any other candidate—for Congress," he said.

Buckingham said he trusts the public to know the difference between making an "accusation" and having someone actually "found guilty."

He said that when someone

is accused of a violation of law, it typically begins with the police doing an "investigation."

"If the investigation warrants a charge, it is presented to the prosecutors for review. It may be dismissed there. If the case warrants going forward, it is presented to the court to initiate a proceeding. Only then is the accused presented with clear charges—facts and law—and given a chance to respond," Buckingham said.

He added that he will have further comments if he receives the actual letter from the U.S. Office of Special Counsel. (Ferdie de la Torre)

DYS holds professional development training

The Division of Youth Services held its semi-annual Professional Development Training at the Pacific Islands Club on Oct. 12-14.

Presenters included the DYS staff, CNMI Attorney General Edward Buckingham, Frank Gibson from Human Resources Support, and Angie Cepeda, Amanda Angel, and

Les Uludong from the Northern Marianas College Community Development Institute.

The main topics included DYS' strategic plans for fiscal year 2012, victim rights and services, leadership and management, sexual harassment in the workplace, team-building skills, and communication skills.

The training is part of DYS'

CADA: Toyota Yaris most popular in October

Among automobile manufacturers last month, Microl Corp.'s Toyota sold the most, while its Yaris model was the top selling vehicle during the same period.

According to the Commonwealth Auto Dealers Association's Monthly Sales and Market Share Report, 20 Toyota vehicles were sold in October, making up 47.62 percent of total vehicles sold in the CNMI.

Nissan was the second best-selling make with seven units rolling out of Joeten Motors' showroom, followed by Hyundai (6), Ford (5), Mazda (2), and Honda (1).

Hyundai and Mazda are sold by Triple J Motors, while Ford,

Honda, and Kia belong to Joeten Motors.

Buyers, meanwhile, snapped up seven Yaris units, one more than those who bought Toyota Corollas.

Hyundai Accent, Toyota Highlander and Camry, and Ford Ranger were the third best-selling vehicles last month with three units sold, while two units of Nissan Sentra, Hyundai Elantra, and Nissan Quest were also bought.

Models that sold a unit each were Ford Fiesta and Taurus, Honda Civic, Nissan Maxima, Pathfinder, and Rogue, Toyota Tacoma, Mazda 5 and CX9, and Hyundai Tucson and Vera Cruz. (Mark Rabago)

ALDAN

From Page 2

for command staff briefing.

Hailed Counselor of the Year is Sharon San Nicolas, who began a system employee for 10 years. San Nicolas started as a teacher at Tinian High School in 2002 to 2006. She then transferred to Saipan Southern High School for less than a year before moving to KHS as its counselor.

Everyday, San Nicolas at-

tends to an average of 50 students who seek her advice and guidance in both their studies and personal lives. Her goal, she said, is to see each student successfully graduate and be prepared in their chosen career.

KHS principal Alfred Ada praised all his staff, especially the awardees, for a great job done. "I want to praise all of them because they are the right team. ...I am thankful for the team because they complete Kagman High School."

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CNMI marks Veteran Awareness Week

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The CNMI community will get a chance to show its appreciation to the country's armed forces and veterans this week with a proclamation declaring Nov. 7 to 11, 2011 as Veterans Awareness Week.

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed the Veterans Awareness Week proclamation last Thursday at the Governor's Office conference room in the presence of CNMI Veteran Affairs Office director Vicente C. Camacho, his predecessor Ruth Coleman, VFW 6457 commander Mariano Fajardo, and other veterans.

Camacho, who came onboard VAO just recently, invited the CNMI community to events lined up this week, culminating with the Veterans Day commemoration ceremony beginning at 11am on Nov. 11 at the American Memorial Park.

"This is a very important day because it celebrates our veterans. America is very proud of its military. It's one day in a year that America celebrates its veterans," he said.

Fajardo, who read the proclamation, said Veterans Day pays tribute to the service and sacrifice of the men and women, who, in defense of freedom, have bravely worn the uniform of the

United States Armed Forces.

"Our country is forever indebted to our veterans for their courage and exemplary service. We also remember and honor those who laid down their lives in freedom's defense. These brave men and women made the ultimate sacrifice for our benefit. On Veterans Day, we remember these heroes for their valor, their loyalty, and their dedication. Their selfless sacrifices continue to inspire us today as we work to advance peace and extend freedom around the world," read Fajardo, who also mentioned the U.S. armed forces' campaigns in Europe during the Great War and World War II, Southeast Asia in '60s, and most recently in Iraq and Afghanistan.

sure of self-government in the CNMI.

Atalig, through Horey, wants the court to issue a mandatory injunction requiring Obama and his Cabinet to take all steps to establish a full measure of self-government in the CNMI, and to continue the progressive development of such self-government until it is fully established.

"This right of local self-government places substantive and enforceable limits on the power of the United States to legislate for the Northern Mariana Islands," Horey said.

These limits, he said, are exceeded when, for example, the magnitude of the degree of intrusion into the internal affairs of the CNMI by a federal law exceeds the strength and legitimacy of the federal interest to be served by such legislation.

"The CNRA intrudes into the internal affairs of the CNMI to a great and substantial degree," he said.

Horey said the implementation and

enforcement of the CNRA in the CNMI inherently violates the Covenant's guarantee of self-government to the people of the NMI, including Atalig.

Horey said that Obama has the duty to take care that the laws and treaties of the United States, including the Trusteeship Agreement, be faithfully executed.

"The President's duty to take care that self-government be developed and established in the Northern Mariana Islands...is mandatory and not discretionary," the lawyer said.

The Fitial administration had filed a lawsuit before the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in an attempt to block the federal takeover of the local immigration system.

In November 2009, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia Judge Paul L. Friedman upheld the constitutionality of the law that applies federal immigration laws to the CNMI.

one loses his job, these constitutional rights should not apply. He resorts to hurling personal insults, name-calling, and baseless accusations against human rights lawyers who tell the good people of the CNMI that these constitutional rights apply to all.

"Nevertheless, I wish him well. If the good in him stops demonizing these poor contract workers and sees them as human beings just like him—seeking a better life in this planet that we all share—perhaps he will find some internal peace," said Laguatan.

CNMI govt is broke

During the same free-rolling interview Friday, Fitial reminded everyone that he authored the law that allowed non-resident workers to come to the CNMI in the first place back in the '80s.

"I have no qualms for those people legally employed...because they are not a burden and are contributing their fair share to the community. But I have strong objection to supporting those illegal unemployed people—illegally employed, illegally residing. My term is burden. If you're in that category you have no place here in the CNMI.

"Why do aliens continue to stay here when they are no longer employed? That's the question. They're not supposed to. I authored the Nonresident Workers Act, Public Law 3-66. I memorized that law so if you're not employed, you're not supposed to be around," he said.

The governor said aliens wanting to return to their countries of origin can't rely on the government to take care of their plane tickets because, "the government is broke. We don't have money."

Fitial also had choice words for those

still hoping to gain some status with the passage of Washington Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's HR 1466.

"Don't wait for Kilili's bill to be passed because it's not going to be passed. The U.S. Congress is not stupid to carve out a special law for a few people. What about the 14 million illegal aliens roaming around the streets of the USA?" he said.

Sablan's bill, which was recently approved at the committee level and is awaiting action by the full House, seeks to grant "CNMI-only" status to four categories of aliens, including immediate relatives of U.S. citizen children regardless of age.

Wage theft

On her website, human rights advocate and former Rota teacher Wendy Doromal took Fitial to task for the CNMI's treatment of alien workers.

"I would like to ask the governor how he feels about the hundreds of CNMI employers who have illegally stolen wages from thousands of foreign contract workers. He doesn't appear to have a 'strong objection' to wage theft. How does this governor feel about those citizens who illegally employ foreign workers, who illegally recruit them, or who are involved in human trafficking schemes. Any harsh words for these serious lawbreakers?" she asked.

As for Fitial's criticism of Nicolas Lewis and Laguatan, Doromal said it only shows that "this governor is disrespectful not only to foreign contract workers, but to the two attorneys who are only trying to inform the workers of their rights."

Doromal's blog is www.unheardno-more.blogspot.com.

The Veterans Awareness Week proclamation also saw the attendance of House Speaker Eli D. Cabrera (R-Saipan), Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan), and Reps. Joseph M. Palacios (R-Saipan) and Fredrick P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan).

VOTERS

From Page 1

voters participated in the casino referendum, with 425 voters saying "no" to the casino plans and 416 saying "yes." These results, however, are non-binding.

Friday's referendum yielded a very low turnout of only 7 percent, with only 841 votes cast including early voters. Based on the CEC records, Saipan has 12,527 registered voters as of Oct. 14 this year.

The survey's organizers had hoped for at least a 60-percent voter turnout.

The results were certified by the students on Friday night, with the guidance of both the Commonwealth Election Commission and the Office of the Public Auditor.

Despite the majority win of casino opponents, Current Issues class instructor Sam McPhetres described the nine-vote difference as "a victory by a nose."

He believes that, with the very low turnout, the referendum record is not a "good statistical sampling" that can be used to predict the "future" as it only represents a very small portion of Saipan's registered voters.

He described the activity as a useful experience for students and voters—both for those who participated and those who opted not to join the survey.

Due to past experiences with low turnouts during regular non-personality elections, McPhetres was expecting this referendum not to be an exemption. "But I didn't expect this to be so low."

McPhetres personally wants to see a study done first before any casino bill is passed for Saipan.

He said the survey results will be turned over this week to Senate President Paul Manglona and Sen. Ralph Torres, who requested the conduct of the referendum.

McPhetres said that among the

Veterans Day is a federal holiday that is observed on Nov. 11. It is also celebrated as Armistice Day or Remembrance Day around the world to mark the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I on that date in 1919.

many factors that contributed to the unsatisfying result were the failure of both pro- and anti-casino advocates to get their supporters involved in the process; the confusion among some voters about the polling sites for the referendum; and people failing to express their opinion. According to McPhetres, it was only in 1977 when he saw a strong public opinion on casino gambling.

The class' central committee chairperson, Czarina Jucutan, described the survey as "once-in-a-lifetime experience." Despite the disappointing turnout, she said the whole activity was successful in that they managed to adhere to the rules and regulation of the Election Commission when doing the survey.

She described the nine-vote difference as disappointing but considers it a good challenge. "It [turnout] didn't come out that well. It's disappointing...but it's also a good challenge," she said.

The class printed 8,000 ballots for the activity; only 841 were actually used.

At the Northern Marianas College polling site, a total of 220 votes were cast, with 106 saying no and 114 saying yes. These voters are from San Antonio, San Vicente, and Koblerville.

At the legislative building, 72 voters cast their votes, with 41 opposed and 31 in support. This polling place was designated for voters from Tanapag, San Roque, Capitol Hills and Northern Islands.

At the Kagman Community Center, 88 said yes to casinos while 58 said no. Only 146 voters in Kagman participated in the survey.

At the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, 241 votes were cast, with 134 saying yes and 107 saying no.

Among early voters, 113 rejected the casino plan while 49 approved its legalization on Saipan. Early voters cast their ballots on Nov. 2 and 3.

TRADER

From Page 1

General Eric Holder.

Atalig wants the U.S. District Court for the NMI to declare that CNRA as lawfully unenforceable and that its implementation and enforcement is valid and lawful only with the consent of the people of the CNMI.

Atalig said that that consent may be withdrawn in accordance with constitutional processes.

In the alternative, Atalig wants the court to declare as unconstitutional those provisions of the Covenant that authorize and allow the implementation and enforcement of the CNRA in the CNMI.

He wants the court to rule that the CNMI does not enjoy the full measure of self-government as required by the Trusteeship Agreement, and that the United States is obliged to establish a full mea-

LAWYERS

From Page 1

'Argumentum ad hominem'

When asked to react to Fitial's comments, Nicolas Lewis simply replied through her Blackberry: "*Argumentum ad hominem*."

The Merriam Webster Dictionary defines *argumentum ad hominem* as "marked by or being an attack on an opponent's character rather than by an answer to the contentions made."

Laguatan, meanwhile, reiterated his and Nicolas Lewis' arguments that alien workers who are out of status have rights under the U.S. Constitution.

"Everyday, hundreds of people appear in U.S. immigration courts who have violated immigration laws because they overstayed, worked illegally, violated some technicality, or committed some crime. The U.S. Constitution guarantees them the right to a hearing, the right to counsel, and the right to present defenses, and various kinds of applications for reliefs provided for by statutes and case law. These basic democratic rights are sacred, inalienable, and the backbone of our nation," he said in an email to the *Saipan Tribune*.

Laguatan added that alien workers in the CNMI have these same constitutional rights because these islands are part of the United States.

"Many of them have U.S. citizen children. The President of the United States recognizes these constitutional rights. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and U.S. immigration judges also respect these rights. The governor of the CNMI apparently does not. In his world, when

FITIAL

From Page 1

He described the party's new president as someone who has a very strong relationship with the national Republican committee in Washington, D.C. He disclosed that Fitial also has a good rapport with the current chairman of Republican National Committee, Rince Priebus, and has constant communication with key members of the committee at national level.

"I think it is crucial for the many issues we face here," he added.

According to Fitial, he previously served both as chairman and vice chairman at the GOP national steering committee for many terms.

At the local party level, Babauta is confident that Fitial can bring unity to both Republican and Covenant parties, the faction that Fitial created when he ran and won as governor in 2005 and 2009. Babauta added that Fitial remains a solid Republican by heart.

With the GOP now controlling the U.S. House, Babauta believes that the political trend at the national level will have the party taking control of the Senate in

the next national election. This, he said, would be advantageous to the CNMI, which has a Republican governor.

Fitial vowed to strengthen the Republican Party by implementing "inclusivity" among its membership. To do this, he said the party needs to expand its grassroots by way of networking with precinct clubs.

"I want to expand the support for the party because I believe that if you don't have the numbers, you don't have a party that is strong. That's my goal: to expand our grassroots. How? By networking the precinct clubs," he said.

When asked if the new responsibility will not hamper his busy schedule as the CNMI governor, Fitial said this will not have an effect in any way because party meetings will be held after work hours.

When Fitial moved to the Republican Party last year, he moved with him many key supporters but not Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, who has vowed to remain with the Covenant Party.

"I have tremendous respect for the desire of any Republican or Covenant member where they want to go. I will not force anybody, but I welcome all of them to come back to the Republican Party," said Fitial.

Man claims exposure to toxic materials at Marpi landfill

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A heavy equipment operator who is now medically disabled after allegedly being exposed to toxic materials at Marpi landfill has filed a lawsuit in federal court over the 2008 dumping of lead contaminated soil by the U.S. military.

Vijaya Raghavan Sridharan, a citizen of India, is suing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for negligence.

Sridharan also sued his former employer, Pacific Drilling Ltd., for negligence and strict

liability. He sued PDL, PDL president Rama Medabalmi and PDL chief engineer Mahesh Balakrishnan for failure to pay him the minimum wage and overtime pay.

Sridharan's wife, Kanchana S. Sridharan, joined the lawsuit and filed a claim for loss of consortium against USACE, USEPA, and PDL.

Saipan Tribune contacted PDL for comments yesterday but no one answered the phone. As of press time, no one from PDL returned *Saipan Tribune's* call.

The Sridharan couple, through counsels Michael W. Dotts and

Ramon K. Quichocho, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order the defendants pay them damages, including for medical expenses, pain and suffering, emotional distress, loss of enjoyment of life, and future medical problems. Mr. Sridharan also demanded payment for unpaid minimum wage and overtime.

Dotts and Quichocho stated in the complaint filed Friday that USACE and USEPA were notified about Mr. Sridharan's claim in February 2011 and the Office of the U.S. Attorney was also served a copy of the claim on Feb. 22, 2011.

The lawyers said the couple decided to go ahead with the lawsuit as both USACE and USEPA had until Aug. 21, 2011, to act on the claim yet failed to do so.

Mr. Sridharan began working for PDL in 1997 as a heavy equipment operator. He stopped working for PDL in April 2010 and can no longer work due to health problems.

Dotts and Quichocho said that Mr. Sridharan's health problems began during the latter part of 2008, after he was assigned to the Marpi landfill where he was allegedly left without proper and adequate safety gear or su-

pervision.

Mr. Sridharan's health problems were allegedly the result of being exposed to and breathing in air that contained lead and other toxins.

Dotts and Quichocho said the lead and toxins came from soil placed in the landfill by USACE under the supervision of USEPA.

"Mr. Sridharan's health problems reached the point in April 2010 when he was forced to stop working," the lawyers said.

Mr. Sridharan, the lawyers said, was diagnosed with progressive muscular atrophy, a slowly progressive neurological disorder, on Oct. 16, 2010.

"He feels weak, has neck pain, numbness and pain on the right side of the body, visions problems, paralysis of his right upper extremity and weakness of the right lower extremity. His right arm and leg muscles have atrophied and are already deformed. His condition is degenerative and will likely result in his death," the lawyers said.

Dotts and Quichocho pointed out that the Marpi landfill was supposed to be used only for disposing of municipal solid waste or other non-hazardous wastes.

However, the lawyers noted, in 2008 about 1,000 dump truckloads of lead-contaminated soil dug up in Kagman by the U.S. military was disposed at the landfill by USACE under

USEPA's supervision.

When the lead contaminated soil was allegedly disposed at the landfill, it was mixed with non-contaminated soil to be used as cover material.

"By mixing contaminated soil with cover soil, lead and other toxins were not properly contained by USACE and USEPA. When the cover soil was later used to bury refuse placed in the landfill, the toxins in the cover soil became airborne and were inhaled by Mr. Sridharan," the lawyers said.

USEPA, the lawyers added, knew or should have known that the process of mixing contaminated soil with cover soil and then using cover soil as a top cover at the landfill created a health risk and that the toxins would be inhaled by those working at the landfill.

Dotts and Quichocho cited that PDL employees regularly received safety briefings and debriefings, received adequate protective equipment and devices, and safety concerns were adequately addressed before Balakrishnan became the supervisor.

"However, after Mr. Balakrishnan took over as a supervisor, the safety briefings and/or debriefings stopped. Employees were not longer supplied with adequate protective equipment and devices, and safety concerns were ignored," the lawyers alleged.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers from the non-profit group PDM Promoters, Inc. pose for a group photo during their monthly cleanup in the Garapan area on Saturday. The group collected a total of 580 lbs of trash.

PDM Promoters takes on trash that clogs drainages

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Non-profit group PDM Promoters, Inc. is supporting the Division of Environmental Quality's efforts to minimize stormwater pollution on Saipan by helping unclog trash found in drainage systems during their monthly cleanup activity.

"We decided that through our monthly cleanup activities, we can help DEQ in their campaign to get rid of the trash that blocks our drainage and causes flooding and pollution on our beautiful island," PDM Promoters' Sonia Siwa told *Saipan Tribune*.

Last Saturday, a total of 15 volunteers, including Siwa, took part in the cleanup activity of PDM Promoters, Inc. in the Garapan area. Areas covered were Paseo de Marianas, Coral Tree Avenue, American Memorial Park road from Hyatt Regency to the fire station, along Beach Road from the fire station to DFS, and inner streets in Garapan.


The volunteers also did bush cutting services on the sidewalks of Winchell's road.

The group collected a total of 580 lbs of trash from their cleanup activity.

Siwa encouraged other busi-

nesses particularly in Garapan to get involved in keeping the tourist district of Saipan trash-free to entice more visitors to return to the island.

Siwa thanked Joe Kaipat of DEQ for providing their group with supplies such as trash bags and gloves as well as Dickerson and Quinn for the refreshments.



NOVEMBER IS AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH


RAISE YOUR HAND TO STOP DIABETES!

The American Diabetes Association is asking YOU to help stop a disease that's more likely to take your life than breast cancer and AIDS combined. Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure. It is also the leading cause of new cases of blindness among adults. There are many more statistics. . . but the bottom line is that you can:

"Take action against a killer."

*Source: American Diabetes Association

Diabetes is treatable and an eye exam is a simple thing to do that could be the difference between catching diabetes early and getting treatment, or going blind.



HARDT EYE CLINIC

235-2030

We're here to help and to answer your questions, whether simple or complicated.



Department of Community & Cultural Affairs REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Department of Community & Cultural Affairs (DCCA) is soliciting request for proposals for FY 2012-2014 Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funds as defined in section 676A of the CSBG Act under Title XX of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Funds will be sub-granted to agencies/non-profit community organizations in the CNMI upon meeting the specific qualifications/provisions of the said funding through the CSBG State Plan.

The purpose of the CSBG funding is to make grants to States and Territories for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities and the empowerment of low-income families to become fully self-sufficient. The special intent of this funding will be to fund projects that will provide services to the community who are considered economically disadvantaged.

All proposals must be submitted to the DCCA Office of the Secretary no later than Thursday, November 10, 2011, 4:30 p.m. A copy of the grant general requirements/conditions, subgrantee responsibilities and other scope relating to the funding can be obtained at the DCCA main office in Capital Hill. For additional questions or inquiries, please contact Vivian T. Sablan, CSBG Program Coordinator, at 664-2550/1/9 or Mr. George Fitial at the DCCA Main Office at 664-2576.

/s/ Melvin L.O. Faisao

DCCA Secretary and CSBG Administrator for Community Service Programs

****This ad has been paid for by the Community Service Block Grant under the Department of Health and Human Services****

Brennan to serve another term as Chamber president

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

President Douglas Brennan hopes to improve the business climate in the CNMI after getting the nod of Saipan Chamber of Commerce members during the organization’s elections

CDA poised to take action on two QC beneficiaries

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority is poised to take action on We Manage Calls, Inc. and PTI Services, Inc. for non-compliance with qualifying certificate program requirements.

Carline Sablan, CDA economic development analyst, consulted this plan with the board during its meeting on Friday.

“These two QCs were for the call center operations. They did not move forward with their planned investments given the timeline that was required in the QC,” Sablan told the board.

Sablan disclosed that CDA already recommended in 2008 “a suspension or revocation” of the QC for We Manage Calls, Inc. but Gov. Benigno

Wednesday.

Brennan, the general manager of Microl Corp, was elected to another one-year term along with vice president Vincent J. Seman, Century Insurance Co., Ltd. general/legal counsel; secretary Jolene G. Torres, Marianas International Travel

R. Fitial “did not act on our recommendation.”

Sablan said a notice of intent to revoke or suspend the qualifying certificate has already been issued.

Legal counsel Ben Salas said that the beneficiary is then given 15 days to ask for an opportunity to be heard by the CDA board.

“If they request for a hearing, then we will give them a hearing. If they don’t request for a hearing, then we can move forward to the next step by telling the governor that it should be suspended or revoked,” said Salas.

With the governor’s failure to act on CDA’s recommendation, board chair Pedro Itibus told Sablan that the agency should have a dialogue with the governor “and point out that all the circumstances leading up to the actions taken by CDA and the

Agency managing director; and treasurer Michael S. Johnson, managing partner of Deloitte on Saipan and in Palau.

Melvin Tenorio, Marianas Pacific Distributors, Inc. sales manager; Velma Palacios, IT&E Engineering and Plant Technical Services manager; and Alex Sa-

basis or rationale behind moving forward to revoke” the QC.

PTI Services

Itibus also instructed Sablan to go through the administrative process in dealing with the qualifying certificate of PTI Services, Inc.

During the board meeting, Sablan said that PTI Services, Inc. did not meet the required investment of \$3.2 million six months within the effective date of the certificate. The company obtained their certificate in 2009.

“We met with Larry Knecht and Rose Soledad earlier this year and it was Rose that had indicated to me that the board will be meeting in mid-November. Hopefully, they will come back to us,” said Sablan.

Soledad, IT&E regional controller, confirmed in a

blan, Saipan Shipping Co. marketing manager, were also elected to two-year terms as directors, joining Dave M. Sablan of CIC and Aya Matsumoto of Pacific Eagle on the Chamber board. Sablan and Matsumoto are in the last year of their two-year terms.

Brennan said he will continue

phone interview with *Saipan Tribune* that PTI Services, Inc. had been informed “informally” about its QC status.

“We do have plans to write to CDA regarding this matter. Moreover, PTI Services, Inc. continues its commitment to demonstrate its corporate social responsibility in the CNMI—from our chief executive officer down to our employees—through various community projects such as sports development and beach cleanups,” she added.

In a statement, PTI Services, Inc. said, “Over the past year, we have made significant investments in the call center operations. We continue to create and maintain well-paying jobs in the CNMI and that we are actively pursuing additional opportunities to expand the call center operations.”

“to promote and protect business, economic and civic interests within our islands” as he looks forward to another term as president of the Chamber.

When asked about the biggest challenges currently facing the Chamber, Brennan said: “Supply and demand.”

“There aren’t enough investors in the CNMI, and the cost of doing business in the CNMI continues to climb. The Chamber plans to be active in addressing both in 2012,” he said.

In his message to members in the Chamber’s newsletter, Brennan said: “The economy has forced changes in how we conduct our business. We need to look at where we can create jobs, not lose them. We need to build solid public/private partnerships like we have done with our visiting military vessels. We also need to find ways to improve the island standard of living for all our residents,

Sentencing of ex-BMW official postponed

The federal court has approved putting off the sentencing of William A. Hocog, a former supervisor at the Department of Public Safety’s Bureau of Motor Vehicles who pleaded guilty plea for his role in the driver’s license scam case.

Hocog’s sentencing, originally scheduled for Friday, will now be on Nov. 22, at 1:30pm.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set the new sentencing date after assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe and defense lawyer Vicente T. Salas agreed to postpone the sentencing due to the unresolved issue regarding the appropriate guideline offense level section.

Salas would like more time to research the issue and submit a formal objection to the U.S.

while reducing the cost of living and educating our youth in ways that will allow them to take us to a higher standard. Trying to help build that future for our children while still maintaining an amazing island community culture continues to drive me.”

The annual Chamber Installation Dinner where Brennan and company will be feted is set on Jan. 14, 2012.

Brennan also took the opportunity to invite the community to a series of workshops to educate businesses on how to engage in federal contracting set for Nov. 10.

On Dec. 4, the Chamber will also conduct its annual Student Exploration Day for high school students.

The Chamber will then host its annual Holiday Golf Tournament at Coral Ocean Point on Dec. 17.

The Chamber election Wednesday coincided with a “meet and greet” session with Maritime Prepositioning Ships Squadron Three on Saipan Commander Capt. Deidre McLay.

Probation’s current guideline assessment.

The U.S. government, in turn, would like more time to look into whether there are any specific offense characteristics to be applied to Hocog.

Hocog pleaded guilty in June to one count in the indictment that charged him with conspiracy to unlawfully produce and transfer an identification document.

According to the prosecution, from April 16 to June 18, 2010, Hocog and his four co-defendants conspired to unlawfully produce and transfer CNMI driver’s licenses.

His other co-defendants—Tahira Dolores Selepeo Miah, Mohammad Jahangir Miah, Hongmei Sun, and Hui Qiang Yan—have already pleaded guilty. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
ITB12-DCCA/SPORTS-003 (A-C)

SUBMISSION/OPENNING DATE: NOVEMBER 28, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 46” RIDING MOWER, ONE (1) 42” RIDING MOWER AND ONE (1) BUSH CUTTER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND RECREATION DIVISION”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/S/ MELVIN L.O. FAISAO
SECRETARY OF DC&CA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
ITB12-DLNR/DFW-005

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“LEASE OF AN OFFICE SPACE FOR THE DEPT. OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE – ROTA BRANCH”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) – (D)

/S/ ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
ACTING SECRETARY OF DLNR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

RETIREMENT FUND
Investing For The Future Financial Security Of Our Members

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

APPROXIMATELY 14,666 SQ. FT. PRIME OFFICE SPACE

The Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund (NMIRF) is soliciting proposals to lease approximately 14,666 square feet of prime office space on the second and third floors (approximately 7000 sq.ft. per floor) of the Retirement Fund Building on Capitol Hill, Saipan. Ideally located across from the Governor’s Office and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, the building has a backup generator, 24-hour water service, and ample parking space for employees and visitors. Space is available for viewing immediately.

Minimum acceptable terms include the following:

- Per square foot per month, Triple Net (higher for less than full available footage);
- Lessee responsible for own utilities, as well as cost to separately meter;
- 24 months minimum lease term; and
- First month, last month and reasonable security deposit required (amount depends on credit history and financial strength of Lessee).

All proposals are subject to acceptance by the NMIRF Board of Trustees in its sole discretion.

/s/ RICHARD S. VILLAGOMEZ
Administrator, NMI Retirement Fund

VEHICLES FOR BID

2004
Mazda 3i Sedan White

2005
Mazda 3i Sedan Blue

2010
Mazda 3i Sedan Aqua Blue

2005
Mazda Tribute White

2004
Kia Rio Sedan White

2008
Hyundai Tucson Black

2006
Hyundai Tucson Blue

2006
Hyundai Sonata Maroon

2002
Toyota Echo Sedan Silver

**WELLS
FARGO**

FINANCIAL

If interested, please contact
Frank Ermitanio or
Marisa LeonGuerrero
at 235-6030.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF
MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION
Plaintiff,	NO. 11-0261
-v-	SUMMONS
DIEGO A. SASAMOTO and ANICIA S. SASAMOTO,	FOR
Defendants.	PUBLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of our answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the plaintiff’s attorneys, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above Court:

DATED, this 26th day of October, 2011:

/s/ Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL
Plaintiff,	CTION
-v-	NO.
CARMEN T. ANDON and SAMUEL M. ANDON,	11-0042
Defendants.	NOTICE
	OF
	SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 14, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 011 G 308, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 797 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys’ Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 06 dated December 9, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder’s File No. 93-4414, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 18th day of October, 2011:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Tinian Dynasty Travel adds 2 more flights from Shanghai

» Sales and marketing office opened in Xian, Shaanxi Province

On the early morning hours of Nov. 3, 2011, Sichuan Airline's flight from Shanghai landed at the Saipan International Airport, marking the beginning of two more weekly flights from China. These flights are on top of the existing twice weekly flights from China. That means there are now six flights from China to Saipan every week.

The two flights on Monday and Friday depart from Guangzhou. The four flights on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday depart from Shanghai. All flights arrive on Saipan the following morning.

By adding these two weekly flights, Tinian Dynasty Travel chairman Michael Kwan is confident in the development of the China tourism market for the CNMI and the popularity of the CNMI as a destination.

"I am very gratified that the tireless efforts and determination to overturn the other Chinese airlines' objections, the long approval process with U.S. [Department of Transportation], [Federal Aviation Administration], and Transportation Security Administration], and the allocation



Tinian Dynasty Travel, together with Sichuan Airlines, hosts an educational seminar for 412 travel agents and media on Oct. 25, 2011, to showcase the beauty and scenery of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota as a tropical destination.

tion of landing and takeoff slots at both Shanghai and Guangzhou airports all came to fruition," Kwan said. "I am very confident that through my continued efforts to bring more Chinese visitors to CNMI, the economy will recover soon."

Kwan also extends his appreciation to Sichuan Airline

for their support and partnership in making the flights to Saipan available for Chinese tourists.

To increase its promotional efforts in China, Tinian Dynasty Travel opened its ninth sales and marketing office in Xian City (population 7.4 million) in Shaanxi Province (population 37.6 million). Other offices are

in Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Foshan, Dalian, Chengdu, Wuhan, and Shenzhen.

On Oct. 25, together with Sichuan Airlines, the office hosted an educational seminar for 412 travel agents and media to showcase the beauty and scenery of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota as a tropical destination. The

presentation was well received by everyone in attendance. Yu Ya Jun, vice chairman of the Xian Tourism Administration, gave his personal endorsement to promote the CNMI as an ideal destination for Chinese tourists. The education seminar received wide coverage in Xian's newspaper and television.

The two weekly flights will bring an additional 25,000 visitors per year, for an annual total of more than 75,000 visitors from China. With their average spending of US\$1,500 per person, they are expected to generate more than \$100 million in revenue for the local economy. *(Tinian Dynasty travel)*



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



CUC-RFEI-12-001

Requests for Expressions of Interest For the Purchase or Operation of Public Utilities (A Non-Binding, Informal Market Survey)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), a public corporation, is interested in the potential for privatization of its services. Desired is for interested firms, individuals, or groups to present an "Expression of Interest" for the privatization and/or transfer of CUC Utility Services. Expressions of Interest may include in whole, in part, or in business sector: direct purchase, operating contract schemes, and/or utility agency or co-operative formation(s) for the Electrical Power Generation Systems, Electrical Transmission and Distribution Systems, and Water and Wastewater Utility Services.

The Request for Expressions of Interest is an exploratory project in order to survey market interest in owning and/or operating the utility. It is not intended to be a formal or informal procurement process and CUC does not express or imply that any future procurement and/or acquisition process will occur, or that any preference will be given to those replying.

The CUC invites suitably qualified utility owners and operators with proven records of accomplishment in power generation, transmission, distribution, and water and wastewater utility ownership and operations to submit an EOI to purchase and operate the referenced CUC operations and facilities. CUC will review all Expressions of Interests received, and based in part on these submittals, will decide on whether to pursue privatization further. This EOI is an exploratory survey of market interest only.

The CUC-RFEI-12-001 packet will be e-mailed, upon request, to all interested offeror, by the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 AM to 4:30 PM), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted by hand or courier in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFEI-12-001" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No.4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on December 16, 2011 (ChST). Late submission will not be considered.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) local time on December 12, 2011 to Alan Fletcher, Deputy Director for Water/Wastewater via email alan.fletcher@cucgov.org; Manuel B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email msablan@cucgov.net; and Ms. Janina Muna, CUC Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika.muna@cucgov.org. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications, only to prospective respondents who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-12-002

Water & Wastewater Laboratory Services

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from DEQ certified firms to provide laboratory services for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package and Scope-of-Work may be obtained, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 100.00 (non-refundable) for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **November 15, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-12-002, CUC Water & Wastewater Laboratory Services", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 28, 2011 at 10:00 AM, (ChST)**. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before the submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Offerors will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 17, 2011** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net; Janina Muna, Administrative Assistant, Procurement & Supply via email mika.muna@cucgov.org with a copy to Heidi Yelin, CUC Laboratory Manager via email cuclabman@yahoo.com

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Search on for overdue Marshalls mariners

HONOLULU—A U.S. Coast Guard Hercules airplane from Air Station Barbers Point is en route to the Republic of the Marshall Islands in response to a search in Majuro for an overdue vessel with seven people aboard Friday.

The 20-foot skiff, carrying

seven males between the ages for 19 and 30, was last seen leaving the southwestern part of Maloelap Atoll en route north to Kaven Island, Thursday.

The Royal Australian Navy liaison to the Republic of Marshall Islands contacted Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordina-

tion Center Honolulu watchers at 10pm Thursday and reported the vessel as 24 hours overdue.

JRCC personnel are working closely with Royal Australian Navy liaison in coordinating joint search patterns that include assets from both governments.

Currently an Air Marshall Islands aircraft is conducting search patterns and the Royal Australian Navy is preparing to launch their 107-foot Pacific patrol boat.

It will take the Hercules crew approximately eight hours to reach the atoll. (USCG)

Joint Region Marianas Named Energy Champion 2011

PITI, Guam—The Guam Energy Office honored Joint Region Marianas Oct. 27 with an Energy Champion 2011 award during an islandwide National Energy Awareness Month celebration at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort.

According to the GEO, the award is presented to organizations and interagency partners that have demonstrated its commitment to pursuing energy efficiency, conservation and investments in renewable energy technologies.

Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio praised JRM for its commitment to energy conservation on the island through a variety of renewable energy projects. Tenorio presented the award to Cmdr. Daniel Cook, JRM assistant regional engineer.

"This recognition is deeply appreciated," said Cook. "It's a fine demonstration of our partnership with the government of Guam as we advance our efforts to reduce dependence on fossil fuels."

The secretary of the Navy has outlined five energy goals to enhance and better enable combat capabilities, sustain the environment for future generations, and promote a clean energy economy. One of the five goals is to harness 50 percent of to-



U.S. NAVY/RAY REBARA

Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio, left, presents the Joint Region Marianas with the Energy Champion 2011 award on Oct. 27 during an islandwide National Energy Awareness Month celebration at Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort. Accepting the award on behalf of JRM is Kevin Evans, JRM/NAVFAC Marianas energy manager, center, and Cmdr. Dan Cook, JRM assistant regional engineer.

tal Department of Navy energy consumption from alternative sources by 2020.

"NAVFAC Marianas has been working closely with the Department of Energy and other federal agencies to leverage available funding and resources in order to achieve this goal," said Kevin Evans,

JRM/NAVFAC Marianas energy manager. "We'll continue to collaborate with our local and federal partners to research technologies that are cost-effective and practical for our island environment."

As examples, the Navy converted 318 streetlights to efficient induction lighting;

playgrounds and sidewalks on Naval Base Guam are powered by solar lights; and solar panel arrays, which represent one of three components in the Navy's Energy Savings Performance Contract, are tied to the main electrical grid thereby minimizing the military's reliance on fuel. (NAVFAC)

Guam Labor to oversee Registered Apprenticeship program

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Department of Labor announced last week the formal recognition of the Guam Department of Labor as the state apprenticeship agency authorized to oversee the territory's Registered Apprenticeship system.

"Guam's now federally recognized Registered Apprenticeship program will expand career pathways that lead to good jobs for the territory's workforce," said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. "Participants in Guam's apprenticeship program will receive a nationally recognized credential, and employers will benefit from a highly skilled workforce that is trained to industry standards."

The Guam Department of Labor has worked closely with the Office of Apprenticeship of the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration to develop a Registered Apprenticeship system. ETA's recognition of the Guam Department of Labor as a state apprenticeship agency will support the territory's efforts to improve opportunities for the local workforce through the Registered Apprenticeship "earn and

learn" model, which prepares participants for highly skilled careers while allowing them to earn a paycheck.

In July 2011, Guam Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo submitted formal documentation requesting ETA's recognition of the Guam Department of Labor as the

agency to facilitate apprenticeship programs and agreements.

"We're finding every way to bring career opportunities to as many Guamanians as possible," said Calvo. "We're finding every way to enhance the workforce with high-paying jobs for Guamanians."

Register for pesticide applicator certification, exam

The Division of Environmental Quality will administer the Pesticide Applicator Examination on Rota on Nov. 16, 2011.

Individuals wanting to become certified pesticide applicators must pass a written examination. Each exam is a written, closed-book examination consisting of 70 multiple-choice questions. Each candidate has up to two hours to complete the exam. The minimum passing score is 70 percent.

Examination includes but is not limited to: labeling; safety factors; environmental consequences; pest identification and characteristics; pesticide types, formulations and dilutions; equipment maintenance and calibration; proper storage, use, and disposal of pesticides and containers; pesticide applica-

tion techniques; pesticide laws and regulations; recordkeeping; worker protection standards; and other relevant information as deemed necessary, including but not limited to new developments and other pertinent matters.

Exam categories are: commercial agriculture, commercial resort (ornamental & turf), commercial institutional (structural, health) and private agricultural. Candidates must register at least 3 working days prior to the scheduled examination. Candidates who submit incomplete registration forms will not be allowed to take the exam. Registration forms are available online at <http://www.deq.gov.mp/article.aspx?secID=7&artID=175>.

Who should register for the exam? Any person that uses insect or pest control products

on plants, vegetables, fruits, or flowers; applies a weed-and-feed product to a client's lawn or spray for insects; uses insect or pest control products for the maintenance of resort grounds, golf courses, or greenhouses; applies pesticides to someone else's property; applies, purchases or distributes Restricted Use Pesticides; or applies pesticides in residences, schools or public places must obtain certification to apply pesticides.

There must a minimum of five persons in order for the exam to take place, or exam will be cancelled.

For more information about the certification and exam requirements, contact Reina Camacho at 664-8512 or send an email to reinacamacho@deq.gov.mp. (DEQ)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 7, 2000

Govt still undecided on PCB lawsuit

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday said the CNMI government has yet to decide whether to seek legal action following disclosure that some residents of Tanapag have high levels of polychlorinated biphenyl contamination in their body. He said he is more concerned over the safety and health of the people, which both local and federal agencies must address to ensure that the villagers are protected from harmful effects of the contamination. "I don't know whether [legal action] will come later, but what we are concerned of is the health of our people," Tenorio told reporters.

House halts action on driver's license bill

Due to serious policy questions, the House of Representatives yesterday deferred action on a bill that will bar police from seizing the license of drivers who have violated traffic rules in the CNMI. The House Committee on Judicial and Government Operations is expected to re-assess HB 12-270 after some members of the lower house questioned provisions of the proposal, particularly the new policy it will set out if it becomes law. Sponsored by Rep. Dino M. Jones, who chairs JGO, the measure seeks to amend existing law to prohibit the seizure of drivers license prior to conviction for a crime or infraction. Such practice raises constitutional concerns, according to a committee report endorsing the legislation.

Nov. 7, 2002

OPA: DOLI-Tinian misused \$32K in public funds

The Office of the Public Auditor yesterday disclosed that the Department of Labor and Immigration's Tinian office had misused a total of \$32,522 in government money for improper telephone charges in three occasions. Public Auditor Michael Sablan said the audit involved telephone charges and long distance calls made by the DOLI-Tinian from January 1998 to June 2000, in response to a complaint filed with the OPA on March 16, 2000. "It was determined that misuse of government funds may have occurred and that a more comprehensive audit should be conducted. An employee was subsequently charged and convicted, resulting in a delay in the issuance of this report," Sablan added.

Govt scrambles for money to pay HPMR

As of yesterday, the government was still scrambling to identify funds to complete the outstanding debt owed to the government health insurance's third party administrator, the Hawaii Pacific Medical Referrals Inc. Gov. Juan N. Babauta told reporters yesterday morning that if the government fails to meet the payment deadline, HPMR's decision to permanently relinquish its ties with the state-run Group Health and Life Insurance Inc. would have to be respected. "Obviously, if we cannot meet the deadline, we will respect the decision from HPMR to terminate the services. And we go from there," said the Governor. In such case, Babauta said that the Department of Public Health would have to step forward and deal directly with healthcare providers in Honolulu or other offshore clinics or hospitals.

Nov. 7, 2003

'Political disputes seal defeat of Rota casino plan'

Bickering among political parties on Rota was blamed for the failure of the Rota Popular Initiative to garner the necessary votes for acceptance. Senator Paul A. Manglona acknowledged that Rota Mayor Benjamin Manglona was the main force behind the initiative to establish a casino industry on the island, which apparently became a contentious issue among political rivals. "Somehow, it got sidetracked by the political disputes between the various parties. And it became a political issue. So for that reason, I believe it did not garner the necessary two-thirds votes," said Manglona.

CUC to keep own procurement rules

Despite a warning from the Attorney General's Office, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board aims to continue to use its own procurement rules and regulations pending the implementation of a uniformed fiscal management system for the entire CNMI government. CUC board chairman Herman Sablan said the CUC has several projects that may be compromised if it decides to wait on the new procedures, which have yet to be drafted. "We have lots of projects to do. And we need to make sure that we have a system in place to assist us in handling these projects," said Sablan.

Island Snapshots



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Belated happy golden birthday to Sgt. Tars Olopai, who celebrated his special day on Nov.4! What a night we shared! Also, happy birthday to Millie Ann Limes Wabol, who is celebrating her birthday today, Nov. 7. May your day be filled with more blessings and may the good Lord bless you! Love, the 7King families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CASINO SURVEY

Poll watchers stationed at the Multipurpose Center are seen assisting Patty Mendoza in Friday's referendum survey conducted by the students of Northern Marianas College. Saipan voters seem not interested in participating in any surveys on casinos following the very low turnout in Friday's referendum.

MONETH DEPOSA



Benigno Sablan casts his vote at the legislative building during Friday's referendum survey on whether Saipan voters support or oppose the legalization of casino gaming on the island.

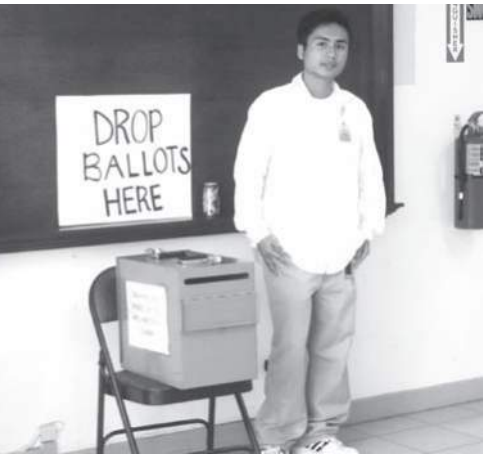
MONETH DEPOSA



ANNUAL TRADITION

As Perdido resident Juan T. Camacho arranges the wreath for his deceased sons, John B. Camacho Jr., Christopher Vicente B. Camacho, and Ray Patrick b. Camacho, at the Chalan Kanoa public cemetery on Nov. 1, All Saints Day.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



▲ NMC students/poll watchers stand guard over the ballot boxes on Capital Hill Friday.

'TRUNK OR TREAT'

Staff of P&A Corp. pose with their winning trunk during the Trunk or Treat event at the American Memorial Park last Oct. 31.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



HUMANITIES AWARDEES

Hopwood Jr. High School teacher Angelina Yobech, center, accepts her Outstanding Humanities Teacher award from press secretary Angel Demapan and Humanities Council board chair Tracy Guerrero at the 2011 Governor's Humanities Awards event at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan on Oct. 28.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



Former Historic Preservation Office archaeological technician John Castro, center, receives the Preservation of CNMI History award on behalf of Dr. Jennifer McKinnon of Flinders University in Australia from press secretary Angel Demapan and Humanities Council board chair Tracy Guerrero at the 2011 Governor's Humanities Awards event at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan on Oct. 28.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society executive director Jim Stowell, center, receives the Research and Publication in the Humanities award from press secretary Angel Demapan and Humanities Council board chair Tracy Guerrero at the 2011 Governor's Humanities Awards event at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan on Oct. 28.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Hafa Adai Beach Hotel general manager Juan I. Tenorio, center, accepts the Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices award on behalf of his brother, the late Joaquin I. Norita, from press secretary Angel Demapan and Humanities Council board chair Tracy Guerrero at the 2011 Governor's Humanities Awards event at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan on Oct. 28.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Rising college costs, debts, crushing best and brightest

Not all that long ago in the American experience, a million was a big number. Then it was a billion. Today the word “trillion” is thrown around casually.

The number is so big and so hard to comprehend that it has a certain cachet. Deficits and debts seem to matter when trillions of dollars are at stake. When they were in the billions, not so much. Which was a mistake.

Which brings us to the latest trillion-dollar-baby: America's student loan debt.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York reported last month that the debt owed by U.S. college students has topped \$1 trillion for the first time. That figure doesn't even take into account the loans owned by parents on behalf of students.

This number is not just the result of inflation or population growth but of a fundamental shift in U.S. policy toward helping our next generation reach for the same dreams the previous generation had the opportunity to achieve.

Students are borrowing twice what they did a decade ago, partly because states have reduced their support for higher education. In the meantime, with ever more kids wanting to get in and willing to borrow to pay for it, colleges keep raising prices.

In 1984, tuition was less than 25 percent of the overall revenue for the nation's colleges and universities, according to association known as the State Higher Education Executive Officers. By 2009, tuition accounted for 37 percent of higher education revenue. The same study found that per-student state appropriations for public colleges and universities was lower in 2009 than at any time since 1984.

America's middle class is being priced out of an opportunity to succeed.

But smart kids know that their lifetime earning potential is significantly increased by obtaining a college degree. So they saddle themselves with debt to keep alive the hope that comes with an education. That hope is being crushed by bills that outpace post-graduation jobs, if the jobs even exist.

So it's not hard to understand why, in many cities, a major source of the anger fueling the Occupy Wall Street movement comes from students seeking student loan relief.

Slowly but surely, the threads of the tapestry of the American dream are being pulled away. First came the homeownership bubble, which in some ways contributed to the original Tea Party anger. Now comes the student loan debt bubble.

About two-thirds of graduates with a bachelor's degree have student loans, according to the College Board, with the average debt about \$24,000. The promise was that you'd get a good job coming out of school, so you could handle that. But not if no one's hiring. Not if you're working at Starbucks.

Congress, President Barack Obama and state legislatures must get beyond the political battles of left and right and see what is happening to the next generation of Americans. Most of them don't yet have any political allegiances, only a desire to start building their own nest egg.

Mr. Obama reached out to the students dragged down by debt last week. For six months, beginning in January, borrowers with both federal loans and federally backed loans can consolidate them at a slightly lower interest rate.

It's a modest start, but far more serious work needs to be done.

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Sometimes it's best to laugh

This morning instead of pontificating and lecturing on what we should do to improve our society, let's enjoy a bit of humor. Laughter is a great medicine. Let's enjoy the following and hope that it will brighten our day.

A. The following are actual written school excuses given to teachers by parents of students:

- My son is under the doctor's care and should not take fizial ed. Please execute him.
- Please excuse Blance from jim today. She is administrating.
- Dear School: Please excuse John from being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and also 33.
- Carlos was absent yesterday because he was playing football. He got hit in the growing part.
- Please excuse Pedro from being absent yesterday. He had diah (crossed out), diahoah (crossed out), dyah (crossed out), oh, the shifts.
- Please excuse Mary for being absent yesterday. She was in bed with gramps.
- Please excuse Tommy for being. It was his father's fault.

B. Actual excerpts from student science exam papers:

- Benjamin Franklin produced electricity by rubbing cats backwards.
- Blood flows down one leg and up the other.
- For nosebleed: put the nose much lower than the body.
- For asphyxiation: apply artificial respiration until the patient is dead.
- When water freezes you can walk on it. That is what Christ did long ago in wintertime.

C. Actual bumper stickers observed on America's roads:

- Want a taste of religion? Bite a minister.
- Do not tailgate, or I will flick a booger on your windshield.
- I drive this way just to piss you off.
- Crime wouldn't pay if the government ran it.
- Join the Army: Visit exotic places, meet interesting people and then kill them.

D. How's this for quick thinking?

Mr. Smith was brought to Mercy Hospital (a Catholic hospital) and taken quickly in for coronary surgery. The operation went very well, and the groggy man regained consciousness. He was reassured by a Sister of Mercy, who was waiting by his bed.

"Mr. Smith, you're going to be just fine," said the nun. "We need to know, however, how you intend to pay for your stay here. Are you covered by insurance?"

"No, I'm not," answered the man hoarsely.

"Then can you pay in cash?" persisted the nun.

"I'm afraid I cannot, Sister."

"Well, do you have any close relatives?"

"Just my sister in New Mexico. But she's a humble spinster nun."

"Oh, I must correct you. Nuns are not spinsters. They are married to God."

"Wonderful!" said Mr. Smith. "In that case send the bill to my brother-in-law!"

E. Why God never received his PhD:

1. He had only one major publication.

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



2. Some even doubt he wrote it himself.
3. He never applied to the ethics board for permission to use human species.
4. When one experiment went awry, He tried to cover it by drowning His subjects.
5. When subjects didn't behave as predicated, He deleted them from the sample.
6. He rarely came to class, just told His students to read the book.
7. He expelled His first two students for learning.
8. Although there were only 10 requirements, all of his students failed.
9. His office hours were infrequent and usually held on a mountaintop.
10. Some say He had His Son teach the class.

F. Kids Say the Darnest Things:

1. The parts of speech are lungs and air.
2. The inhabitants of Moscow are called Mosquitoes.
3. The four seasons are salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar.
4. The spinal column is a long bunch of bones. The head sits on the top and you sit on the bottom.
5. The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 opossums.
6. Iron was discovered because someone smelt it.
7. Syntax is all the money collected at the church from sinners.
8. A census taker is a man who goes from house to house increasing the population.

■ ■ ■ ■

Now that we are smiling and feeling a bit better, let's discuss a more serious subject. I have to become serious for a few minutes. The subject is finding and keeping a job. As Nov. 27 approaches, many of our nonresident workers will be leaving the islands. We as local citizens are expected to fill their shoes. Are we preparing for this?

Many of us have attended two job fairs where we spoke to prospective employers. Hopefully something positive will emerge. But basically most of the results will depend on us and what we have to offer to the prospective employer. Remember, employers are shoppers, hoping to get bargains in the way of motivated and trained employees.

Too many of us are disheartened after applying for a job and getting refused. We wonder why? But have we really prepared ourselves before we apply? Do we know how to sell ourselves?

Did we offer a well-written resume? Did we attach a photo of ourselves? Did we write a paragraph clearly stating what we have to offer and what our background is for the job we are seeking? Do we know who the company is and what it does when we apply for a job? Remember, applying for a job is like a beauty contest. We must present a good front coupled with a strong willingness to want to join the company. Competition is keen.

Several major points that I want to suggest for success in job

See **SOMETIMES** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Sustansiau Na Diskuidu

Guaha man-sustansiau siha na asuntu 'nai ta diskuida hit gi mapos na trenta años. Buente ti tana' presisu 'sino guaha otu asuntu siha tumane' hit. Lau gaige na ta kuestionta pagu hafa na ti siña ta dispone lau hagas fiñkas Marianas.

Pot ihemplo i guihañan yan mina siha gi halom tasi: Siña guaha kampu gi bandan guihañan lau todú negosiu yan otu nasion pot makone' i man-lalauya siha na guihañan debi u iniluye nu i federat. 'Nai mattu gi mina, tat kumu laña, siña ha' man-mañage hit lau i federat dueñu nu i maseha hafa na fina' mina gi halom 200 miyas na tasin Marianas.

Todu siña ta sodae' lehitimu rason hafa na debi hita tafan dueñu nu i guihañan yan mina gi halom tasin Marianas. Lau areglon minan tasi gaige este gi responsabilidadat federat, ahe' ti iya Marianas. Kontodu Hawaii, California, Oregon yan Washington na estados siha, i federat dueñu ni minan niha. Estadu siha lokue' gi sanhaya gi kanton tasi man-gaige gi papa' federat.

Man-diskuidau hit nu este na asuntu. Lastima, sa' guaha kampu para ta petsige gumu'ot man-dueñu ni minan tasita esta i Matsu 1987. Guiya este na sakan 'nai umefektibu lai federat pot disposision todú mina gi halom 200 miyas na tasi gi papa' banderaña. Ni hafa ta chogue pagu, mampos man-atrasau hit tumuka i asuntu 'nai esta masimientu gi hechuran lai federat.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Gi fina' kanta mamaisen i prohibu man-mañge i Chamorro. Ha faisen todus na u bira siha tatte pot para uma-abiba i kutturan natibu. Ti baba na finaisen lau guaha motibu na manhanau lamegai na tautauta para America. I Chamorro ni malulug tradision yan kutura ti u malefa amanu i chalan i gima'. Gaige este na sensia giya hita sa' todú lastrota

man-ma-imprinta gi inai este siha na islas.

Lau 'nai taya appottunidat chochu' para mantension familia, siempre u tulus siha para otu lugat 'nai siña man-la'la' disiente. Dispues buente 'an todú man-felis edukasion famaguon niha 'nai ha tutuhon humassu para u bira siha tatte gi gima'. Megai dumiñgu i tanu' pot este na chinatsaga. Ti isau niha i man-hanau sa' ennuau uttimu suspirus para i los prohimos gi todú animon niha manman-aligau disiente na mantension familia. I paraisun natibu mama' sasalaguan.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Megai sumosoyu' presetbasion kultura kulan mohon kinini' atulai ni siña ta asne ya ta sahguan halom gi taru. Estague' sumen lache na sineyu' yan hinassu. I puntu i para tana' la'la' hafa kutturata yan tradision natibu. I sasyan i usun liñguahe diariu ginen halom guma' huyoñg. Sin este, puru hit ha' fabulus de chispas kulan mohon nuebu na hugete.

Hafa minapotña para un' finu' Chamorruye famaguonmu desde ke mañgahulu' an' oga'an esta' i oran deskansu 'an pupueñge? Kumu saina, guaha problemamu umusa i mismu hila'mu? Kau este na sessu hit man-finu Chamorro-lñglis, tat kumu, "they taguing me to bring more..." 'sino, "play on this side because if the kareta comes and chini-get you, hekua' tihu tuñgu".

Suheta usun dos hula' gi ma-abiban liñguahe yan tradision natibu. Pega mona i primet pasumu ya un' saunau umabiba sinsiyu i sessu ta letke--usun liñguahe diariu. Yangin siña este ta usa diariu yan famaguonta, pues ti presisu un' manadan konfrensia pot kultura sa' gaige na manhale' fime gi diariu na usun hila natibu. Estague' satbasionta kumu Chamorro. Estague' uttimu atmas natibu gi ma-abiban kutturana yan tradision.

FSM citizens encouraged to review their roles

Editor's Note: FSM Congress Speaker Isaac V. Figir issued the following statement on the 25th anniversary of the independence of the Federated States of Micronesia.

On behalf of the 17th Congress, let me offer my best wishes to fellow citizens throughout the Federated States of Micronesia and outside of its borders on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the emergence of the FSM as a sovereign nation within the international community.

Twenty-five years ago, on Nov. 3, 1986 over 200 years of domination by foreign powers and decades of United Nations Trusteeship came to an end in our islands. In its place a new nation emerged on the world stage, the independent and self-governing Federated States of Micronesia. No longer the ward of other nations, we as a people would decide on our destiny with the aim to build a new promised land. That promise was enshrined in our Constitution: "...we, who have been the wards of other nations, become the proud guardians of our own islands, now and forever."

While 25 years is but a short moment in world history, it is quite a long time for a human life. During that time span, one generation—perhaps the greatest in our history—has passed. That generation included people like Tosiwo Nakayama, John Mangefel, Andon Amaraich, Resio Moses, Hiroshi Ishmael and Petrus Tun. They, along with few survivors—Leo Falcam and Bethwel Henry—should never be forgotten. These great men deserve our eternal gratitude. In FSM, these are giants among men.

These giants envisioned and charted a future in which our people would be able to achieve self-governance. This achievement in our history was made 25 years ago through a process that was both democratic and peaceful. That alone is an achievement of which we should always be proud, given the terrible struggle and violence many nations encountered as they transitioned forward toward self-governance.

Our nation was conceived and created through the strong united will of our people and the knowledge of our inherent sovereignty. Our Nation's sovereign act of self-determination occurred in 1979 with the adoption of the FSM Constitution. The United States immediately began a program of transitioning out its administrative functions under the United Nations Trusteeship Agreement over the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to the FSM's newly-constituted government.

Twenty-five years ago, in a historic exercise of our government's constitutional authority, we entered into a unique partnership with United States of America expressed in the Compact of Free Association. This Compact, which took effect on Nov. 3, 1986, after 14 years of negotiations, was and remains today an international treaty between two sovereign nations. It effectively brought an end to the last remaining vestiges of the Trusteeship of the Pacific Islands and it is that sense that we have associated the term, "independence" with the event we celebrate here today.

The Compact is essentially a bargain, designed to advance and

By ISAAC V. FIGIR

Special to the Saipan Tribune



protect the national self-interest of each of the two parties, the FSM and USA. On its side of the bargain, the FSM freely delegated to the US the FSM's governmental responsibility for defense and security, for an indefinite period.

For its part, in addition to protecting the security of the FSM's territory, the US agreed to support the economic growth and development of the FSM, also for an indefinite period. The US also agreed to provide sector grants, federal programs and other benefits, for twenty years. As you know, the initial grants package was replaced in 2003 by negotiated package of grants and benefits that is to continue until 2023, including a substantial Trust Fund.

As we celebrate the anniversary of our right to govern ourselves, let us also reflect on the tremendous responsibilities that accompany self-governance. We must each review our roles in our communities: as participants, as parents, as elders and as leaders. Let us ask ourselves, what we can do to better ourselves, our communities, our state, and our nation.

I must refer here to one of our most important benefits under the Compact. Twenty-five years ago, at the same time that we became an independent, sovereign nation, we entered into a special partnership with the United States of America through the Compact of Free Association. We entered into that agreement on our own free will. Our citizens received the privilege of residence in the U.S. in order to learn, to be trained and to work. Many of our citizens are doing just that and are now contributing to the economy of our great partner, while acquiring skills and experiences that will be essential to the FSM as we go forward.

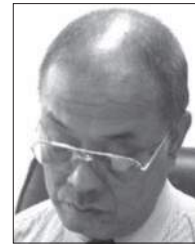
In furtherance of that special relationship, many citizens of our country have also put their lives on the line alongside U.S. citizens in a joint effort—a supreme sacrifice to defend freedom, democracy and the U.S. against attacks, as happened after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. Their sacrifice should not be forgotten.

We have done much and there is still much more that remains to be done. Just the same, our history of the 25 years of building democratic institutions and governance, and partnership with the nations of the world is something of which we should be proud. They are notable achievements, and should be the bedrock of our confidence as we face the new challenges of our times.

Thank you and may you enjoy a happy 25th Independence anniversary.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John S. DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Mampos taya' pinasensia gi hafa presisu para ta petsige pot adelanton linala' linahyan. Memegaiña 'nai man-mefnu hit sin sustansia. Dispues, ta despacha i asuntu mañgontentu. Kulan pasaheru ni para u fan malag San Roque. Todú man-listu man-hanau lau todú lokue' mañanau gi ma-aligau yaben kareta. Lau hagas ha' i yabe gi sagaña. De dios mihi.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Rason na hu sen fama offisiun maestro yan lancheru sa' kada unu mamatinas planun aksion. I maestro ha pega papa' planun un' semana desde cuentas, social studies, science yan English. Dispues hana' guaha sensura pot para u atan kuantu gi estudianteña kumomprende i finanagueña. Ha ebalua ayu na estudianteña i man-dispasu gi leksion niha. Ha chage umayudaye pot para u fan gigigu yan i pumalu.

I lancheru, ha pega papa' todú planon hafa para u tanom. Desde lugat ni para umana' gasga, aladu, yan ma-abonuye, mangaige este gi planuña. Ginen i mapos na sakan 'nai halie' hafa gi tinanomña fahna, hafa dispasiu, yan taimanu 'nai para u aseguara na mamatinasgue' mas ganansia na sakan. Desde apas hutnaleros, abonu, simiya, sisteman irrigation (hanom), todú monhayan esta ha katkula. Kontodu i kinalamten klima gaige ennuau gi hinassoña. Mauleg tafan eyag manman-planu maseha pot satbasionta mismu.

Hafa benefisioña i un' planea maseha un' dia gi haanimu? Dañikulu na difrensia yan ayu i kiinibrutru na kinalamten gi haane. Siempre gi minachom atdao un' lie' hafa siha un' komple yan hafa mas presisu para un' chogue gi sigiente dia.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Si Moises ha esgaihon tautauña gi halom fotten ha'ilas, maipe, taya' hanom ni neñkano' lau ti ha abandona tautauña. Dispues de hana fan safu 'nai magacha' i edda' iya Jordan, ha birague' talu tatte giya Ehiptu para u kone' i tethnan. Gi halom un' sapet, ha komple matago'ña esta' i uttuimu. Guaha gi halom man-ma'gasta gai sensia taiguine?

SOMETIMES

From Page 10

hunting. The first is go to the interview with a positive interview. Make the employer feel we truly mean business when we apply for a job in his company.

Another point is to go back repeatedly after the interview and show the employer we truly want the job. Be persistent. Don't take "We'll call you" as an answer. Go back repeatedly. If we show determination and motivation, it is difficult to refuse us. Ask why we are not hired. Be candid. There are other points that successful job hunters use. Consider the following.

A strong suggestion: Why not visit the Northern Marianas Trades Institute and ask for assistance? We are willing to sit down with you and go through the necessary steps. We will prep you for the position you are seeking. And best of all! You can even enroll in one of our courses to improve your job skills. It's all there for your taking. Let us be your guide into the competitive job market. No money required! It's all for free! Please pass this information on to all friends in need. Call Ray or Vic at 235-8864 for an appointment!

Let me leave you with a smile. There was a man who died and found himself in a beautiful place, surrounded by every comfort. A man in a white jacket came and said, "You may have anything you want—any food, any entertainment, any pleasure."

The man was overjoyed, and for several days he sampled all the wonders of the place. He had every luxury that he had ever dreamed of or hoped. But one day, he grew tired and bored with it all. He called the attendant and said, "I'm tired of all of this. I need to do something to do to keep me busy, to keep me occupied. What kind of work can you give me?"

The attendant shook his head and said, "I am sorry, sir. That is one thing that I cannot provide you. There is no work here for you."

The man replied, "That's terrible. I might as well be in hell."






And the attendant quietly replied, "Where do you think you are?"

Remember call NMTI for help at 235-8864. Happy job hunting and have a great day. Keep smiling!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 75°	▲ 88° ▼ 75°	▲ 88° ▼ 75°	▲ 88° ▼ 75°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Rain	▲ 83 ▼ 76
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 84 ▼ 73
Kosrae	Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 76
Majuro	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 77

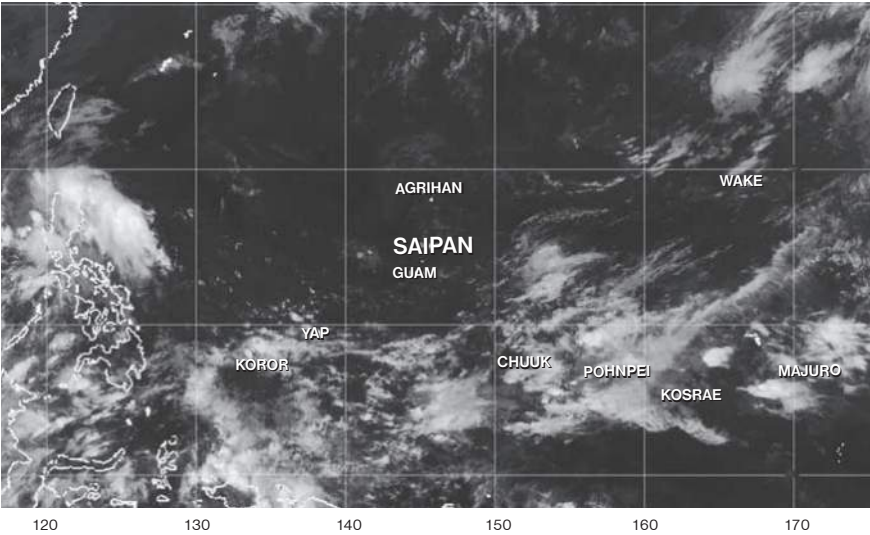
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 65 ▼ 58
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 60 ▼ 38
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 82 ▼ 75
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 83 ▼ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 56 ▼ 53
Los Angeles	Showers	▲ 60 ▼ 44
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 72 ▼ 55
Miami	Showers	▲ 80 ▼ 70
New York	Sunny	▲ 55 ▼ 43
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 55
Paris	Showers	▲ 52 ▼ 48
Pusan	Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 57
Rome	Showers	▲ 68 ▼ 53
Salem	Showers	▲ 48 ▼ 40
San Francisco	Showers	▲ 59 ▼ 50
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 64 ▼ 46
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 70 ▼ 56
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 57 ▼ 44

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
5:39 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet	
11:19 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet	
5:12 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough runs northward from 4N133E to 11N134E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near the trough over the Republic of Palau and Yap state between the equator and 11N from 130E to 140E. Converging surface winds are coupling with divergent upper winds to produce scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of the southern Marianas between 12N and 16N from 150E to 155E. A trade-wind disturbance reaches northeastward from 1N145E to end near Pohnpei at 8N159E. Scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms related to this disturbance are found over Chuuk, Pohnpei and near Kosrae within 250 miles of a line from 4N141E to 8N163E. Another trade-wind disturbance stretches northeastward from 4N165E to 15N178E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen near this system over the Marshall Islands within 200 miles of a line from 6N165E to 10N180. An upper-level low is centered northwest of Wake Island at 25N162E. Another surface trough east of Wake Island extends northeastward from 15N170E to beyond 25N at 175E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present in the vicinity of the low north of a line from 23N165E to 24N173E. Upper-level divergence associated with the upper low is enhancing scattered showers and few thunderstorms near the surface trough axis or east of a line from 25N174E to 13n176e.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Tuesday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Wednesday	6:16 AM	5:46 PM
Thursday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:17 PM	3:07 AM
Tuesday	3:54 PM	3:54 AM
Wednesday	4:33 PM	4:42 AM
Thursday	5:14 PM	5:30 AM
Friday	5:58 PM	6:20 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 5, 2011

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) C05062 2:20am 2:50am 1, 5	ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) C05064 5:30am 6:00am 1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP) C05064 4:25am 5:00am 1, 5	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN) C05062 3:20am 3:55am 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) C05070 4:25am 5:15am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 C05064 4:25am 6:00am 1, 5 via ROP 5K384 7:20am 8:10am 2, 6 C05068 7:55am 8:45am 3, 6 C05068 8:30am 9:20am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05074 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C05076 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 5K386 5:50pm 6:40pm 3, 4, 7 C05078 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily 5K382 9:20pm 10:10pm 1, 5 C05072 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN C05062 2:20am 3:55am 1, 5 via ROP C05069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 5K387 6:30am 7:20am 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 C05071 6:35am 7:25am 3, 6 C05071 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05073 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05075 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C05077 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily 5K383 6:30pm 7:20pm 2, 6 C05079 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO) 5K212 8:20am 10:55am 4, 7	NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN 5K213 11:55am 4:25pm 4, 7
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily DL297 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:05pm 12:35am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ604 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:05am 8:30am 1, 5	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:20am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C05070/191 4:25am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/173 6:05am 10:10pm Daily via NRT C05068/183 7:55am 8:40pm 3, 6 via GUM C05076/183 3:05pm 8:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM C05076/193 3:05pm 10:10pm 2, 5 via GUM-Palau C05072/PR111 9:30pm 7:50am 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN DL172/288 7:55am 12:35am+1 Daily via NRT C0190/5079 10:55am 9:00pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:35pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:35pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0192/5071 9:55pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM-Palau PR110/C05071 10:00pm 7:25am+1 5 via GUM PR110/C05071 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM C0184/5071 10:55pm 7:25am+1 3, 6 via GUM C0184/5071 10:55pm 7:50am+1 1, 4, 7 via GUM C0184/5071 11:25pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 5K168 8:15am 11:25pm 1, 5 C05076/179 3:05pm 9:25pm 1, 5 via GUM	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ724/603 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN 5K169 1:00pm 8:05pm 1, 5 OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0180/5071 10:30pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Facebook post becomes nat'l movement to abandon big banks

By **STUART PFEIFER AND E. SCOTT RECKARD**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—When Kristen Christian learned that Bank of America Corp. planned to charge her a \$5 monthly debit card fee, she did what many people do these days when they get mad: She ranted on Facebook.

What followed was an illustration of the power of social media.

Her Facebook post urging friends to abandon big banks unexpectedly blossomed into a national campaign. Now, more than 75,000 people have pledged to participate in "Bank

Transfer Day" by moving their money from large U.S. banks to nonprofit credit unions by Saturday, Christian said.

The 27-year-old Los Angeles resident has become something of a media star. Christian has appeared on national television programs to discuss the grassroots movement that started with a couple of key strokes on her Mac and ended with credit unions bracing for a swarm of new customers.

"I definitely never expected it to become this big," Christian said. She started the campaign Oct. 4 by inviting 500 of her Facebook friends to abandon their banks. Christian said she would have been happy if

just a few others joined her, but it became something much bigger. About 650,000 U.S. consumers opened credit union accounts since Sept. 29, when Bank of America announced its planned debit card fee, according to the Credit Union National Association, a trade organization. That compares to an average of 80,000 new members a month the rest of the year, the group reported.

Faced with mounting con-

sumer criticism, Bank of America abandoned the planned fee Tuesday.

"I think we may look back in a few years and say that this was the spark that caused a lot of people to say, 'Yes, credit unions are a better deal,'" Bill Cheney, chief executive of the credit union association, said in an interview Friday. "Because at a credit union, the members are the shareholders."

A poll released this week by

research firm Harris Interactive portrayed big banks as vulnerable to losing customers to credit unions, regional banks and community banks.

Twenty-nine percent of Bank of America customers said they were not likely to remain with the company, compared with 22 percent at Wells Fargo and 21 percent at Chase, according to the poll. Just 3 percent of credit union members said they were not likely to con-

tinue the relationship.

Christian said Bank of America's planned fee bothered her because it exempted wealthy customers who met certain balance requirements, meaning it would hit people who could least afford it.

The public outcry was a sign that Bank of America underestimated U.S. consumers, Christian said.

"The American people are done," she said. "We're done supporting businesses whose practices we don't believe in."

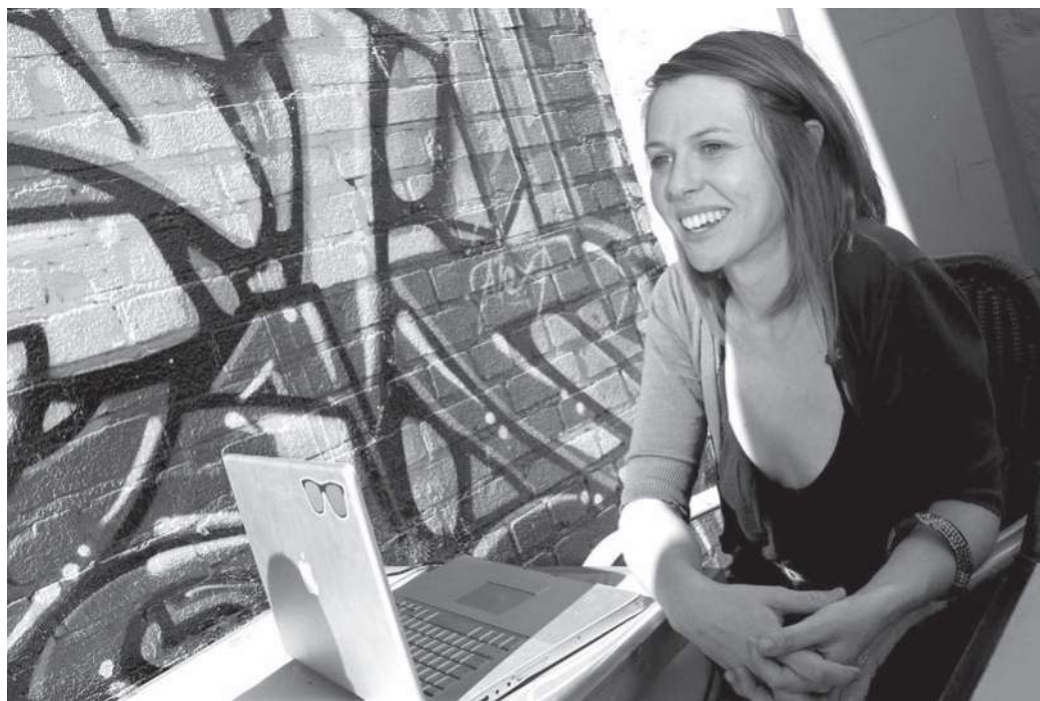
The public campaign against big banks carried a price. Christian said she received a death threat by telephone after one of her first television appearances.

As a result, Christian closed an art gallery she had run, fearful that it would be an easy place for the caller to find her.

"I can't do the country much good if I'm dead," she said.

Not everyone has been unhappy with Christian's efforts. She said six men have proposed marriage. Even a Los Angeles Police Department officer who stopped her because of a burned-out tail light was impressed, she said.

"He told me, 'You look really familiar. You're the credit union girl!'" she said. "He gave me a fix-it ticket, but he also gave me a high-five."



LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

Kristen Christian talks about setting up a social media event which encourages people to close bank accounts with big banks and move their money to small savings and loans at the Stories Books and Cafe in the Echo Park neighborhood of Los Angeles, California, on Nov. 3, 2011.

Most of the unemployed no longer receive benefits

WASHINGTON (AP)—The jobs crisis has left so many people out of work for so long that most of America's unemployed are no longer receiving unemployment benefits.

Early last year, 75 percent were receiving checks. The figure is now 48 percent—a shift that points to a growing crisis of long-term unemployment. Nearly one-third of America's 14 million unemployed have had no job for a year or more.

Congress is expected to decide by year's end whether to continue providing emergency unemployment benefits for up to 99 weeks in the hardest-hit states. If the emergency benefits expire, the proportion of the unemployed receiving aid would fall further.

The ranks of the poor would also rise. The Census Bureau says unemployment benefits kept 3.2 million people from slipping into poverty last year. It defines poverty as annual income below \$22,314 for a family of four.

Yet for a growing share of the unemployed, a vote in Congress to extend the benefits to 99 weeks is irrelevant. They've had no job for more than 99 weeks. They're no longer eligible for benefits.

Their options include food stamps or other social pro-

grams. Nearly 46 million people received food stamps in August, a record total. That figure could grow as more people lose unemployment benefits.

So could the government's disability rolls. Applications for the disability insurance program have jumped about 50 percent since 2007.

"There's going to be increased hardship," said Wayne Vroman, an economist at the Urban Institute.

The number of unemployed has been roughly stable this year. Yet the number receiving benefits has plunged 30 percent.

Government unemployment benefits weren't designed to sustain people for long stretches without work. They usually don't have to. In the recoveries from the previous three recessions, the longest average duration of unemployment was 21 weeks, in July 1983.

By contrast, in the wake of the Great Recession, the figure reached 41 weeks in September. That's the longest on records dating to 1948. The figure is now 39 weeks.

"It was a good safety net for a shorter recession," said Carl Van Horn, an economist at Rutgers University. It assumes "the economy will experience short interruptions and then go

back to normal."

Weekly unemployment checks average about \$300 nationwide. If the extended benefits aren't renewed, growth could slow by up to a half-percentage point next year, economists say.

The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that each \$1 spent on unemployment benefits generates up to \$1.90 in economic growth. The CBO has found that the program is the most effective government policy for increasing growth among 11 options it's analyzed.

Jon Polis lives in East Greenwich, R.I., one of the 20 states where 99 weeks of benefits are available. He used them all up after losing his job as a warehouse worker in 2008. His benefits paid for groceries, car maintenance and health insurance.

Now, Polis, 55, receives disability insurance payments, food stamps and lives in government-subsidized housing. He's been unable to find work because employers in his field want computer skills he doesn't have.

"Employers are crying that they can't find qualified help," he said. But the ones he interviewed with "weren't willing to train anybody."

From late 2007, when the recession began, to early 2010, the number of people receiving un-

employment benefits rose more than four-fold, to 11.5 million.

But the economy has remained so weak that an analysis of long-term unemployment data suggests that about 2 million people have used up 99 weeks of checks and still can't find work.

Contributing to the smaller share of the unemployed who are receiving benefits: Some of them are college graduates or others seeking jobs for the first time. They aren't eligible. Only those who have lost a job through no fault of their own qualify.

The proportion of the unemployed receiving benefits usually falls below 50 percent during an economic recovery. Many have either quit jobs or are new to the job market and don't qualify.

Today, the proportion is falling for a very different reason: Jobs remain scarce. So more of the unemployed are exhausting their benefits.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke has noted that the long-term unemployed increasingly find it hard to find work as their skills and professional networks erode. In a speech last month, Bernanke called long-term unemployment a "national crisis" that should be a top priority for Congress.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

Shift in duties isn't a bad sign

By **MARIE G. MCINTYRE**
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QUESTION: After my manager resigned, I began reporting directly to the vice president of our department. For the past few months, she has praised my outstanding performance and frequently asked for my advice. She also included me in her weekly staff meetings.

A few weeks ago, the vice president hired a new manager who is likely to become my boss. She is now consulting him instead of me. I have also been removed from the weekly meetings. No one has told me what's going on, so I'm becoming concerned about my future. Does this situation sound normal?

ANSWER: Not to worry. You're simply experiencing the turmoil that frequently follows an unexpected management departure. Having been left without a boss, you were temporarily elevated to the next level, where you found yourself assuming additional responsibilities and participating in higher-level discussions.

Now, however, the hiring of your manager's replacement has restored the previous order, leaving you to wonder where all those fun new duties went. Had anyone bothered to view this situation from your point of view, they would have realized that you deserve an explanation of the transition process. Unfortunately, no one appears to have given this any thought.

The good news, though, is that your interim reporting relationship provided a rare and valuable opportunity to impress the vice president. Having observed your talents first-hand, she is quite likely to support your advancement in the future.

To maintain this momentum, you must now concentrate on

developing a strong, positive connection with your incoming boss. Since he's the one who will be writing your next performance review, you don't want any lingering resentment to contaminate that relationship.

Q: My co-worker, "Carly," has very bad breath. If she comes into my office for even a few minutes, the odor is still there after she leaves. This is really bothering me, but I don't know how to tell her about it.

A: Hygiene issues are among the most difficult topics to discuss because they are so intensely personal. Even if Carly is aware of the problem, bringing it up would be awkward and might cause her to avoid you in the future.

Instead of raising this delicate issue yourself, consider asking your boss for help. Because managers are responsible for providing feedback, Carly may be less offended if the message comes via that route. Here's one way that your boss might begin this uncomfortable conversation:

"Carly, I need to talk with you about a sensitive matter that is somewhat difficult to discuss. However, as your manager, I feel obligated to mention it. I've noticed that at times there is a rather unusual odor on your breath. This sometimes indicates a medical problem, so I wanted to see if you were aware of it."

After that, your manager should encourage Carly to consult her doctor or dentist for advice. That will put the problem in the hands of medical professionals, which is certainly where it belongs.

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @office-coach.

Nation

Penn State ex-coach, others charged in child sex case

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP)—An explosive sex abuse scandal and possible cover-up rocked “Happy Valley” on Saturday when former Penn State defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky, once considered Joe Paterno’s heir apparent, was charged with sexually assaulting eight boys over a 15-year period. Among the allegations was a 2002 incident in which a graduate assistant for the team said he saw Sandusky assault a boy in the shower at the Nittany

Lions’ practice center.

Sandusky retired in 1999 but continued to use the school’s facilities for his work with The Second Mile, a foundation he established to help at-risk kids. The state grand jury investigation also resulted in perjury charges against Tim Curley, Penn State’s athletic director, and Gary Schultz, vice president for finance and business. The two administrators were accused of failing to alert police—as required by

state law—of their investigation of the allegations.

“This is a case about a sexual predator who used his position within the university and community to repeatedly prey on young boys,” Pennsylvania Attorney General Linda Kelly said in a statement.

Paterno, who last week became the winningest coach in Division I football, was not charged, and the grand jury report did not appear to implicate him in wrongdoing.

Under Paterno’s four-decades-and-counting stewardship, the Nittany Lions became a bedrock in the college game and fans packed the stadium in State College, a campus town routinely ranked among America’s best places to live and nicknamed “Happy Valley.” Paterno’s teams were revered both for winning games—including two national championships—and largely steering clear of trouble. Sandusky, whose defenses were usually anchored by tough-guy linebackers—hence the moniker, “Linebacker U”—spent three decades at the school. The charges against him cover the period between 1994 and 2009.

Sandusky, 67, was arrested Saturday and released on \$100,000 bail after being ar-

raigned on 40 criminal counts. Curley, 57, and Schultz, 62, were expected to turn themselves in on Monday in Harrisburg.

The allegations against Sandusky, who started The Second Mile in 1977, range from sexual advances to touching to oral and anal sex. The young men testified before a state grand jury that they were in their early teens when some of the abuse occurred; there is evidence even younger children may have been victimized. Defense attorney Joe Amendola said Sandusky has been aware of the accusations for about three years and has maintained his innocence.

“He’s shaky, as you can expect,” Amendola told WJAC-TV after Sandusky was arraigned. “Being 67 years old, never having faced criminal charges in his

life, and having the distinguished career that he’s had, these are very serious allegations.”

A preliminary hearing scheduled for Wednesday would likely be delayed, Amendola said. Sandusky is charged with multiple counts of involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, corruption of minors, endangering the welfare of a child, indecent assault and unlawful contact with a minor, as well as single counts of aggravated indecent assault and attempted indecent assault.

No one answered a knock at the door Saturday at Sandusky’s modest, two-story brick home at the end of a dead-end road in State College. A man who answered the door at The Second Mile office in State College declined to give his name and said the organization had no comment.



Former Penn State football defensive coordinator Gerald “Jerry” Sandusky, center, arrives in handcuffs at the office of Centre County Magisterial District Judge Leslie A. Dutchcot while being escorted by Pennsylvania State Police and Attorney General’s Office officials on Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011, in State College, Pa.

Cain says he won’t answer harassment questions

THE WOODLANDS, Texas (AP)—Republican presidential contender Herman Cain on Saturday vowed to answer no more questions about decade-old sexual harassment allegations and blamed journalists for the claims that have dogged his campaign.

Growing agitated with reporters after a one-on-one debate with rival Newt Gingrich, the former business executive suggested the reporters who asked questions about the allegations were unethical. Asked if he planned to never answer questions about the incidents, he was certain.

“You got it,” he snapped, even as the allegations leave plenty of doubts about Cain’s candidacy.



Cain

A lawyer for one of Cain’s accusers said Friday that his client had filed a complaint “in good faith” against Cain in the 1990s for “several instances of sexual harassment” and had received a financial settlement.

Attorney Joel Bennett suggested Cain wasn’t telling the truth in his repeated denials of the incidents that allegedly took place while the Georgia businessman headed the National Restaurant Association.

Cain repeatedly has denied ever sexually harassing anyone, and his campaign said it was “looking to put this issue behind us.” Advisers had hoped Saturday night’s debate here near

Houston would help do that.

Tea party organizers explicitly limited to the discussion to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

Gingrich, however, gave Cain an opportunity to address the allegations with an open-ended question about what has surprised him about running for president.

Cain didn’t hesitate: “The nit-pickiness of the media,” he said.

“It is the actions and behavior of the media that have been the biggest surprise,” he said, his voice rising.

“There are too many people in the media who are downright dishonest. ... They do a disservice to the American people,” Cain said, bringing the room to its feet.

USGS: 5.6 magnitude quake rattles Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Authorities say a 5.6 magnitude earthquake has hit central Oklahoma, but they had no immediate reports of any injuries or major damages.

The U.S. Geological Survey reported from Golden, Colo., on its website that it detected a 5.6 magnitude

quake at 10:53 p.m. local time Saturday, centered about 44 miles east-northeast of Oklahoma City. It had initially reported the temblor as a 5.2 magnitude quake.

Michelann Ooten, a spokeswoman for the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, also confirmed

a quake on the scale of 5 was recorded.

It came on a day a series of quakes rattled the state, including a 4.7 magnitude quake early Saturday.

Ooten said no injuries were reported to emergency management officials and she had no reports of major damage.

American Catholics prep for new Mass translation

RIVER EDGE, N.J. (AP)—Each Sunday for decades, Roman Catholic priests have offered the blessing—“Lord be with you.” And each Sunday, parishioners would respond, “And also with you.”

Until this month.

Come Nov. 27, the response will be, “And with your spirit.” And so will begin a small revolution in a tradition-rich faith.

At the end of the month, parishes in English-speaking countries will begin to use a new translation of the Roman Missal, the ritual text of prayers and instructions for celebrating Mass. International committees of specialists worked under a Vatican directive to hew close to the Latin, sparking often bitter protests by English speakers over phrasing and readability. After years of revisions negotiated by bishops’ conferences and the Holy See, dioceses are

preparing anxious clergy and parishioners for the rollout, one of the biggest changes in Catholic worship in generations.

“We’re tinkering with a very intimate and personal moment,” said the Rev. Richard Hilgartner, executive director of the worship office for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. “It’s public worship, it’s the church’s official public prayer, but for the individual faithful, it’s one of the primary means of their encounter with the Lord.”

The biggest challenge will be for priests, who must learn intricate new speaking parts—often late in their years of service to the church. At an Archdiocese of Newark training at St. Peter the Apostle Church in River Edge, many clergy had just received a final published copy of the Missal, a thick hardcover bound in red, accompanied by an equally dense study guide. Earlier drafts

had been available for orientation sessions that have been ongoing for months nationwide.

Many clergy are upset by the new language, calling it awkward and hard to understand. The Rev. Tom Iwanowski, pastor of St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church in Oradell and New Milford, N.J., turned to the section of the new missal that calls funeral rites, “the fraternal offices of burial.”

“How can I say those words? It doesn’t make sense,” said Iwanowski, who has been a priest for 36 years. “It separates religion from real life.”

In the new translation, in the Nicene Creed, the phrase “one in Being with the Father,” will change to “consubstantial with the Father.” When a priest prays over the Holy Communion bread and wine, he will ask God for blessings “by sending down your spirit upon them like the dewfall.”

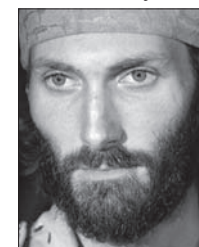
American who joined Libyan rebels returns to US

LINTHICUM, Md. (AP)—An American writer who went missing in Libya for months returned to the United States on Saturday night, telling reporters he went to the north African nation to participate in the uprising against dictator Moammar Gadhafi and was on a reconnaissance mission when he was captured.

But Matthew VanDyke, 32, said his mother and girlfriend didn’t know when he set off from Baltimore for Libya that his goal was to support the revolution.

“You don’t tell your mother that you’re going to go fight in a war,” he said. “When I got out of (a Libyan) prison, I was going to finish what I came to do. So the past several weeks I’ve been in combat on the front lines in Sirte fighting Gadhafi’s forces.”

VanDyke, dressed in his military uniform with a scarf tied around his head, held up a Libyan flag as he walked out of the concourse at Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport into his mother’s arms. He was also met by friends and family waving



VanDyke

American flags and holding up signs. Some had waited for hours after he was detained by Homeland Security officials when he entered the country in New York and missed his flight to Baltimore.

Later, as VanDyke addressed the media, his girlfriend, Lauren Fischer, arrived and planted a big kiss on his lips. The two stood hand in hand for the rest of the time he spoke.

Earlier this year, VanDyke was in Baltimore working on

a book and film about a motorcycle trip across the Middle East and southeast Asia when he began to hear from friends in Libya about their relatives disappearing.

“I wasn’t going to sit back and let this happen to people I care about and not do anything about it,” he said. “I see how people are suffering under regimes like this and it’s time for it to end.”

VanDyke said he was on a reconnaissance mission in Brega with three other fighters with weapons in a truck when he was captured by Gadhafi forces. He was questioned once, he said.

VanDyke spent more than five months in solitary confinement in Libyan prisons. He said he sang Guns n’ Roses songs to himself and tried to name all of the “Star Trek” characters to pass the time. He said he also suffered from the psychological effects of solitary confinement.

Asia

Death toll from Thailand floods rises past 500

BANGKOK (AP)—The nationwide death toll from flooding in Thailand climbed past 500 on Sunday, as the polluted black water continued its march through northern Bangkok, pouring across major intersections and a road underneath the capital's elevated train line.

Floodwaters were also approaching a main road near the city's Mo Chit bus terminal, a major gateway to northern Thailand. But the bus station remained open, traffic police chief Uthaiwan Kaewsa-ard said.

Three months of intense rainfall have fueled Thailand's worst flooding in half a century, swamping much of the country

since July and leaving 506 people dead, according to the government. Floodwaters have begun receding in some provinces north of Bangkok, but they have built up around the city, which stands in the way of the water's natural flow south toward the Gulf of Thailand.

So far, authorities have ordered evacuations in eight of Bangkok's 50 districts, while seven others are either heavily or partially flooded.

On Saturday, floodwaters began lapping at Bangkok's largest outdoor shopping zone, the famed Chatuchak Weekend Market, a major tourist attraction north of the city's

central business district. Water was flowing past the market's eastern side.

In the last few days, it has also begun moving southward in adjacent Lad Phrao, a district studded with office towers, condominiums and a popular shopping mall. Since late Saturday, water had also inundated a two-lane road underneath the Mo Chit Skytrain station, an el-

evated train platform that is part of one of the city's mass transit systems. The road was still passable. Subway service has not yet been affected.

Hoping to divert some of the mass of water still piled up in northern Bangkok, workers Friday night completed a 3.7-mile (6-kilometer) flood wall made from massive, hastily assembled sandbags. But Bangkok

will have to rely on its existing drainage system to fight water that was already beyond the wall and just a few miles (kilometers) from the central business district, city spokesman Jate Sopitpongstorn said.

Over the past two decades, the city's much enlarged and improved drainage system has been able to effectively siphon off water during monsoon sea-

sons with average rainfall. But it will be put to a severe test given the volume of water not seen in Bangkok since perhaps a great flood in 1942.

Sound predictions are difficult because various government officials, including Bangkok's governor and Thailand's prime minister, have given often widely different versions of what city residents can expect.

On Saturday, Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra told a radio audience that a plan to be put before the Cabinet on Tuesday would allocate 100 billion baht (\$3.3 billion) for post-flood reconstruction.

"I admit that this task has really exhausted me, but I will never give up. I just need the public to understand," Yingluck said.

While some roads out of the capital are still passable in every direction, the two major safe corridors from the city run to the south and the east, where Bangkok's international airport is located. Officials maintain they are confident that Suvarnabhumi Airport—the city's only aerial gateway to the outside world—will remain open. Bangkok's second airport, used for domestic flights, is already underwater and remains closed.



Thai residents cross a flooded street at the Lad Phrao district in Bangkok, Thailand, Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011.

Pakistan indicts 2 more in Bhutto assassination

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Two police officers were indicted Saturday in the 2007 assassination of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and will face trial along with five members of the Pakistani Taliban, a state prosecutor said.

The policemen were charged with failing to provide Bhutto with proper security and with destroying evidence, said the prosecutor, Zulfikar Ali. Their indictment triggers a new trial for the Taliban members so that all seven defendants can be tried together, he said.

Bhutto and 23 other people were killed Dec. 27, 2007, in a gun and suicide bomb attack as she was leaving a rally in the garrison town of Rawalpindi. She was campaigning there to return her Pakistan People's Party to power in parliamentary elections just weeks after returning to the country from years in self-imposed exile.

A U.N. commission said the assassination could have been prevented and blamed all levels of government for failing to provide adequate security. It also accused intelligence agencies and other officials of severely hampering the investigation into those behind her murder.

The two police officers are accused of ordering the crime scene to be hosed down within minutes in what investigators believe was a deliberate attempt to destroy evidence, the prosecutor said.

A judge read out the charges against all seven defendants during a closed-door hearing at a prison in Rawalpindi, he said.

The U.N. commission's report said the Rawalpindi police's decision to hose down the crime scene and its failure to collect and preserve evidence "inflicted irreparable damage to the investigation."

The government of then

military ruler Pervez Musharraf blamed Bhutto's death on Baitullah Mehsud, a Pakistani militant commander with reported links to al-Qaida who has since been killed.

But Bhutto's party has repeatedly hinted that Musharraf or his allies were involved.

Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party won the most seats in elections in February 2008 weeks after her killing. Asif Ali Zardari, Bhutto's husband, won the presidency months later after forcing Musharraf to quit the post.

The U.N. commission's report said Musharraf's government, though fully aware and tracking threats against Bhutto, did little more than pass them on to her and to provincial authorities and did not take action to neutralize them or ensure "that the security provided was commensurate with the threats."

The commission urged Pakistani authorities to carry out a "serious, credible" criminal investigation.

Pakistan later set up an investigation team of various law enforcement agencies that told the court there was evidence of Musharraf's involvement.

The court summoned Musharraf—who has lived in Dubai and London since leaving office—though he never appeared, resulting in him being declared a fugitive.

The Pakistani Taliban have declared a war on the state and often target Pakistani troops, government officials and minorities.

A suicide bomber heading toward a Shiite mosque was killed Saturday when his bomb detonated prematurely in southwestern Pakistan, said Hamid Shakeel, deputy inspector general in Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan province, where the blast took place.



Bhutto

Last 45 Chinese miners in cave-in pulled out alive

BEIJING (AP)—Forty-five grimy, exhausted Chinese coal miners trapped by a cave-in were rescued Saturday, ending a 36-hour ordeal in the world's most dangerous country for the industry. Eight miners were killed in the accident.

After Thursday's cave-in, at least 200 workers dug a small rescue tunnel about 1,650 feet (500 meters) deep to reach the trapped miners, the People's Daily newspaper said. Seven trapped miners were pulled out alive Friday from the mine in the city of Samenxia in Henan province, in central China.

On Saturday, state broadcaster CCTV showed rescuers with helmets and oxygen tanks carrying the workers out of the mine shaft to ambulances. The miners lay on stretchers, wrapped with blankets and with towels shielding their eyes from damaging exposure to light.

The rescue was the biggest in the country since April 2010, when 115 miners were pulled out alive after being trapped for eight days in a mine in northern China.

Luo Lin, head of the State Administration for Work Safety, praised the rescue after the last miner was rushed away in an ambulance, but said more work needed to be done to promote safety.

"The alarm bell of work safety must keep ringing. Enterprises should pay attention to work safety when the coal demand is high. ... They should not allow any operation that violates (safety) rules or regulations," he said.

Luo said a magnitude-2.9 earthquake had occurred Thursday near the mine shortly before a "rock burst" was reported. The phenomenon occurs when settling earth bears down on mine walls and causes a sudden



release of stored energy. The exploding chunks of coal and rock, or the shock waves alone, can be lethal.

The rescue work was hindered by the large amount of coal dust thrown up by the explosion, CCTV said.

China's coal mines are the deadliest in the world, although the industry's safety record

has improved in recent years as smaller, illegal mines have been closed. Annual fatalities are now about one-third of the high of nearly 7,000 in 2002.

On Oct. 30, a gas explosion at a coal mine in central China's Hunan province killed 29 workers, the worst accident in recent months.

The mine that caved in Thursday belongs to Yima Coal Group, a large state-owned coal company in Henan, the State Administration of Work Safety said on its website. Fourteen miners managed to escape when the accident happened, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

The fact that the accident was in one of China's big state-run mines may have improved the trapped miners' odds of surviving. Those mines tend to have better rescue equipment and safety practices than smaller mines.

ASIAN BRIEFS

21 NKoreans found on boat in SKorean waters

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Twenty-one North Koreans were found in a boat drifting in South Korean waters this week, the largest such arrival in nine months, an official said Saturday. It wasn't immediately clear how or why the North Koreans, who remain in custody, ended up in South

Korean territory. The boat was found drifting near the western island of Socheong, according to a South Korean coast guard official in the port city of Incheon. Socheong lies just south of the Koreans' disputed maritime border.

Troubled ship with 20 crew safe in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines

(AP)—Philippine officials say a cargo ship with 20 crew members from China has not sunk as earlier feared. Navy and coast guard officials said Saturday that the Panamanian-registered MV Oceanic Union took in water but that its crew managed to pump it out off Ilocos Norte province in the northern Philippines. The vessel was on its way to Subic

Bay, west of Manila. Coast guard spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Algier Ricafrente had said earlier that the Hong Kong Maritime Rescue Coordinating Center reported late Friday that it received a distress call from the ship. He had said the vessel may have sunk or was sinking since the crew had already abandoned ship, and that a search had been launched.

World

At least 69 dead in north Nigeria sect attacks

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Residents fearfully left their homes Saturday to bury their dead in northeast Nigeria following a series of coordinated attacks that killed at least 69 people and left a new police headquarters in ruins, government offices burned and symbols of state power destroyed.

A radical Muslim sect known locally as Boko Haram claimed responsibility for the attacks in Borno and Yobe states, with the worst damage done in and around the city of Damaturu. The group also promised to continue its bloody sectarian fight against Nigeria's weak central government, with residents nervously moving through empty



SOURCE: ESRI AP

streets, waiting for the next attack.

"There's that fear that something might possibly happen again," Nigerian Red Cross official Ibrahim Bulama said.

In Damaturu, the capital of

Yobe state, a car bomb exploded Friday afternoon outside a three-story building used as a military office and barracks, killing many uniformed security agents, Bulama said.

Gunmen then went through the town, blowing up a bank and attacking at least three police stations and five churches, leaving them in rubble, officials said. Gunfire continued through the night and gunmen raided the village of Potiskum near the capital as well, witnesses said, leaving at least two people dead there.

On Saturday morning, people began hesitantly leaving their homes, seeing the destruction left behind which included military and police vehicles burned

by the gunmen with the burned corpses of the drivers who died still in their seats.

Bulama spoke to The Associated Press by telephone Saturday morning from a common Muslim burial ground in the city as his family buried a relative and friend, a police officer who died after suffering a gunshot wound to the head in the fighting.

Officials anticipated a dusk-till-dawn curfew to fall over the town, though state officials

repeatedly declined to comment on the violence. The violence destroyed federal offices, public buildings and an immigration office, said Aliyu Baffale Sambo, an official with Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency.

Nigerian Red Cross statistics showed at least 65 people died in and around Damaturu. Four other people were killed by four bombs in Maiduguri, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) east, officials

said. One of those blasts detonated around noon outside an Islamic college, another alongside a road, local police commissioner Simeon Midenda said.

A short time later, suicide bombers driving a black SUV detonated their explosives outside the base for the military unit charged with protecting the city from Boko Haram fighters, military spokesman Lt. Col. Hassan Ifijeh Mohammed said. That blast injured several soldiers.

Greek premier struggles to end political deadlock

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greece's prime minister struggled Saturday to form a temporary coalition government in the near-bankrupt country, extending a political deadlock threatening billions in international rescue funds.

In an impassioned plea to parliament late Friday, George Papandreou agreed to step aside as premier if necessary to help hammer out a coalition, offering to include the conservative opposition party—a possibility swiftly rejected by its leader.

Papandreou said a new coalition government would need four months to secure the new euro130 billion (\$179 billion) rescue agreement and demonstrate the country's commitment to remaining in the eurozone.

"Cooperation is necessary to guarantee—for Greece and for our partners—that we can honor our commitments," Papandreou said at a meeting Saturday with President Karolos Papoulias, hours after his Socialist government narrowly survived a confidence vote.

"I am concerned that a lack of cooperation could trouble how our partners see our will and desire to remain in the central core of the European Union and the euro."

But Papandreou's plea was snubbed by conservative opposition leader Antonis Samaras.

"We have not asked for any place in his government. All we want is for Mr. Papandreou to resign, because he has become dangerous for the country," Samaras said in a televised address. "We insist on immediate elections." Samaras was due to meet the president at 1:00 p.m. (1100GMT) Sunday.

Frustrated with Greece's protracted political disagreements, the country's creditors have threatened to withhold the next critical euro8 billion (\$11 billion) loan installment until the new debt deal is formally approved in Greece.

Greece is surviving on a euro110 billion (\$150 billion) rescue-loan program from eurozone partners and

Tracking the crisis in Greece

The 17 European Union countries that share a common currency—the euro—each agreed to monetary requirements, including keeping budget deficits below a certain level, before joining the currency. Recently, several eurozone nations—Greece, in particular—have run into difficulty due to high debt.

Greece's current problem

The global financial crisis left the Greek government, which had spent and borrowed heavily but had not collected enough tax, without sufficient money to pay its bills

Behind the trouble in Greece

2009

April EU orders Greece, three other eurozone nations to reduce deficit

October George Papandreou's Socialist Party wins general election amid anger over spending, corruption in government

December Government reveals debt equals 113 percent of GDP, nearly twice the eurozone limit; rating agencies downgrade Greek debt

2010

January 2009 budget deficit revised to 12.7 percent of GDP from 3.7 percent, more than four times the maximum allowed

February Government announces austerity plans, which spark strikes

March Eurozone, IMF agree to safety net of 22 billion euros (\$30.4 billion) to help Greece

April Eurozone agrees to provide up to 30 billion euros (\$41.4 billion) in emergency loans; deficit revised upward again to 13.6 percent of GDP

May Eurozone, IMF agree to 110-billion-euro (\$152-billion) bailout package



■ EU member, in euro
■ EU member, not in euro

Bailout plans came with unpopular reforms; some fear a "no" vote on a referendum on the latest rescue plan will force Greece from the euro, lead to another financial crisis

2011

June Eurozone ministers tell Greece to impose new austerity measures before getting the next loan installment

July Greek parliament approves new austerity measures; eurozone agrees to a second bailout of 109 billion euro (\$151 billion) to try to contain the crisis

September Speculation that Greece will not meet budget targets grows

Oct. 21 Eurozone ministers approve the next 8 billion euro (\$11 billion) in loans, saving Greece from potential default

Oct. 28 Eurozone leaders agree to a 50 percent debt write-off for Greece provided it enacts more austerity measures

Oct. 31 Prime Minister George Papandreou announces call for referendum on bailout package

Nov. 3 Papandreou expected to offer to resign over fallout over the proposed referendum

© 2011 MCT
Source: International Monetary Fund, BBC
Graphic: Pat Carr



ANTI-BERLUSCONI PROTEST

Ukrainian women's rights group Femen, painted in colors of the Italian flag, shout slogans against Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi during a demonstration staged by the Italian Democratic party in Rome Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011. Tens of thousands of opposition activists demonstrated in central Rome on Saturday for Berlusconi's ouster. Democratic Party leader Pierluigi Bersani told the crowd that his party is prepared to work with other opposition groups to lead a new government. Berlusconi's grip on power has been weakened by the ongoing sovereign debt crisis and infighting in his coalition that has prevented clear measures. The protesters, who arrived on buses and trains from throughout Italy, were joined by center-left politicians from France and Germany, as well as a group of topless female demonstrators from Ukraine known as Femen.

Violence in Syria as Arab League warns of disaster

BEIRUT (AP)—Violence erupted Saturday in the restive Syrian city of Homs, killing at least five people as tank shells slammed into an area that has turned into one of the main centers of both protest and reprisal during the seven-month uprising, activists said.

Bloodshed linked to the military crackdown on dissent and what appear to be sectarian revenge killings have engulfed Homs in recent weeks, killing scores of people in the country's third-largest city. The deaths are adding to fears that a peace plan brokered by the Arab League was unraveling only days after Damascus agreed to halt its crackdown.

The head of the Arab League warned Saturday that the failure of the plan would have disastrous consequences.

The 22-nation bloc's secretary-general, Nabil Elaraby, expressed

"deep worries and regret for the continuation of violence all around Syria" despite the deal announced Wednesday at the Arab League's headquarters in Cairo.

The deal called for the Syria to halt violence against protesters, but skeptical regime opponents who held large protests Friday to test the government's word were met with gunfire that killed more than 15 people, activists said.

"The failure of the Arab solution will have disastrous consequences in Syria and the region," Elaraby said. He urged the Syrian government to take "immediate measures ... to protect civilians and assure everyone."

On Saturday, activists reported more violence, including tank shelling, in Homs. At least five people were killed, according to two main activist groups, the British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and the Local Coordinating Committees.

Under the Arab plan, Syria's government also agreed to pull tanks and armored vehicles out of cities, release political prisoners and allow journalists and rights groups into the country.

On Saturday, President Bashar Assad marked Eid al-Adha, or the Feast of the Sacrifice, by releasing 553 detainees, according to SANA, the state-run news agency. The detainees were involved in the unrest in the country, but had "no blood on their hands," SANA said.

Assad traditionally releases detainees to mark religious or national holidays, but many more are believed to remain in jail as political prisoners.

The continuous shelling three days after the Arab League deal was reached suggests Damascus is unwilling—or unable—to put a swift end to a crackdown that has already killed 3,000 people, according to U.N. estimates.

the International Monetary Fund. It is currently finalizing a second major deal: to receive an additional euro130 billion (\$179 billion) in rescue loans and bank support, with banks agreeing to cancel 50 percent of their Greek debt.

Midway through his four-year term, Papandreou was forced by his austerity-weary Socialist party into seeking cross-party support after he abandoned a disastrous proposal to hold a referendum on a new European debt deal—which prompted havoc on world markets and anger from creditors.

Papandreou's popularity has been battered by two years of punishing austerity, causing crippling strikes, violent pro-

tests and sharp drop in living standards for ordinary Greeks who face repeated rounds of tax hikes and cuts in pension and salaries.

Late Friday, Papandreou won a confidence vote in the Socialist-led parliament on a pledge that he was willing to quit and form a caretaker coalition.

But he insisted an immediate election would paralyze government and endanger the new rescue deal.

The conservative snub left Papandreou with limited options: negotiating with conservative splinter groups and independents to attract consensus, and possibly invite respected non-politicians to join the effort.

Focus

Poorest poor in US hits new record: 1 in 15 people

By HOPE YEN and LAURA WIDES-MUNOZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The ranks of America's poorest poor have climbed to a record high—1 in 15 people—spread widely across metropolitan areas as the housing bust pushed many inner-city poor into suburbs and other outlying places and shriveled jobs and income.

New census data paint a stark portrait of the nation's haves and have-nots at a time when unemployment remains persistently high. It comes a week before the government plans to release first-ever economic data that will show more Hispanics, elderly and working-age poor have fallen into poverty.

In all, the numbers underscore the breadth and scope by which the downturn has reached further into mainstream America.

"There now really is no unaffected group, except maybe the very top income earners," said Robert Moffitt, a professor of economics at Johns Hopkins University. "Recessions are supposed to be temporary, and when it's over, everything returns to where it was before. But the worry now is that the downturn—which will end eventually—will have long-lasting effects on families who lose jobs, become worse off and can't recover."

Traditional inner-city black ghettos are thinning out and changing, drawing in impoverished Hispanics who have low-wage jobs or are unemployed. Neighborhoods with poverty rates of at least 40 percent are stretching over broader areas, increasing in suburbs at twice the rate of cities.

Once-booming Sun Belt metro areas are now seeing some of the biggest jumps in concentrated poverty.

Signs of a growing divide between rich and poor can be seen in places such as the upscale Miami suburb of Miami Shores, where nannies gather with their charges at a playground nestled between the township's sprawling golf course and soccer fields. The locale is a far cry from where many of the nannies live.

One is Mariana Gripaldi, 36, an Argentine who came to the U.S. about 10 years ago to escape her own country's economic crisis. She and her husband rent a two-bedroom apartment near Biscayne Bay in a middle-class neighborhood at the north end of Miami Beach, far from the chic hotels and stores.

But Gripaldi said in the past two years, the neighborhood has seen an increase in crime.

"The police come sometimes once or twice a night," she said in Spanish. "We are looking for a new place, but it's so expensive. My husband went to look at a place (to rent), and it was \$1,500 for a two-bedroom, one bath. I don't like the changes, but I don't know if we can move."

About 20.5 million Americans, or 6.7 percent of the U.S. population, make up the poorest poor, defined as those at 50 percent or less of the official poverty level. Those living in deep poverty represent nearly half of the 46.2 million people scraping by below the poverty line. In 2010, the poorest poor meant an income of \$5,570 or less for an individual and \$11,157 for a family of four.

That 6.7 percent share is the highest in the 35 years that the Census Bureau has maintained such records, surpassing previous highs in 2009 and 1993 of just over 6 percent.

Broken down by states, 40 states and the District of Columbia had increases in the poorest



AP
In a Thursday, Sept. 16, 2010 file photo, a man who did not wish to be identified, who lost his job two months ago after being hurt on the job, works to collect money for his family on a Miami street corner.

poor since 2007, and none saw decreases. The District of Columbia ranked highest at 10.7 percent, followed by Mississippi and New Mexico. Nevada had the biggest jump, rising from 4.6 percent to 7 percent.

Concentrated poverty also spread wider.

After declining during the 1990s economic boom, the proportion of poor people in large metropolitan areas who lived in high-poverty neighborhoods jumped from 11.2 percent in 2000 to 15.1 percent last year, according to a Brookings Institution analysis released Thursday. Such geographically concentrated poverty in the U.S. is now at the highest level since 1990, following a decade of high unemployment and rising energy costs.

Extreme poverty today continues to be prevalent in the industrial Midwest, including Detroit and Grand Rapids, both in Michigan, and Akron, Ohio, due to a renewed decline in manufacturing. But the biggest growth in high-poverty areas is occurring in newer Sun Belt metro areas such as Las Vegas, Nevada; Riverside, California; and Cape Coral, Florida, after

the plummeting housing market wiped out home values and dried up construction jobs.

As a whole, the number of poor in the suburbs who lived in high-poverty neighborhoods rose by 41 percent since 2000, more than double the growth of such city neighborhoods.

Elizabeth Kneebone, a senior research associate at Brookings, described a demographic shift in people living in high-poverty neighborhoods, which have less access to good schools, hospitals and government services. As concentrated poverty spreads to new areas, including suburbs, the residents are now more likely to be white, native-born and high school or college graduates, not the conventional image of high-school dropouts or single mothers in inner-city ghettos.

The more recent broader migration of the U.S. population, including working- and middle-class blacks, to the South and to suburbs helps explain some of the shifts in poverty.

A study by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies found that the population of 133 historically black ghettos had dropped 36 percent since 1970,

as the U.S. black population growth slowed and many blacks moved to new areas. The newest residents in these ghettos are now more likely to be Hispanic, who have more than tripled their share in the neighborhoods, to 21 percent.

Just over 7 percent of all African-Americans nationwide now live in traditional ghettos, down from 33 percent in 1970.

"As extreme-poverty neighborhoods emerge in more places, that is shifting the general makeup of those populations," said Kneebone, the lead author of the Brookings analysis.

New 2010 poverty data to be released next week by the Census Bureau will show additional demographic changes.

The new supplemental poverty measure for the first time will take into account noncash aid such as tax credits and food stamps, but also additional everyday costs such as commuting and medical care. Official poverty figures released in September took into account only income before tax deductions.

Based on newly released estimates for 2009, the new measure will show a significant jump in overall poverty. Poverty

for Americans 65 and older is on track to nearly double after factoring in rising out-of-pocket medical expenses, from 9 percent to over 15 percent. Poverty increases also are anticipated for the working-age population because of commuting and child-care costs, while child poverty will dip partly due to the positive effect of food stamps, a government program that supplies coupons that the poor can exchange for food.

For the first time, the share of Hispanics living in poverty is expected to surpass that of African-Americans based on the new measure, reflecting in part the lower participation of immigrants and non-English speakers in government aid programs such as housing and food stamps. The 2009 census estimates show 27.6 percent of all Hispanics living in poverty, compared with 23.4 percent for blacks.

Alba Alvarez, 52, a nanny who chatted recently in Miami, said she is lucky because her employer rents an apartment to her and her husband at a low rate in a comfortable neighborhood on the bay. But her adult children, who followed her to the U.S. from Honduras, are having a harder time.

They initially found work in a regional wholesale fruit and vegetable market that supplies many local supermarkets. But her youngest son recently lost his job, and since he has no legal status, he cannot get any help from the government.

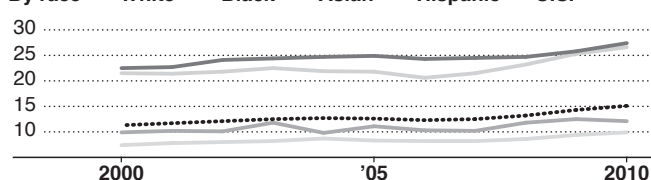
"As a mother, I feel so horrible. There's this sense of powerlessness. I wanted things to be better for them in this country," Alvarez said. "I (recently) suggested my youngest go back to Honduras. It's easier for me to help him there than here, where rent and everything is so expensive."

Poverty, income and insurance: The national picture

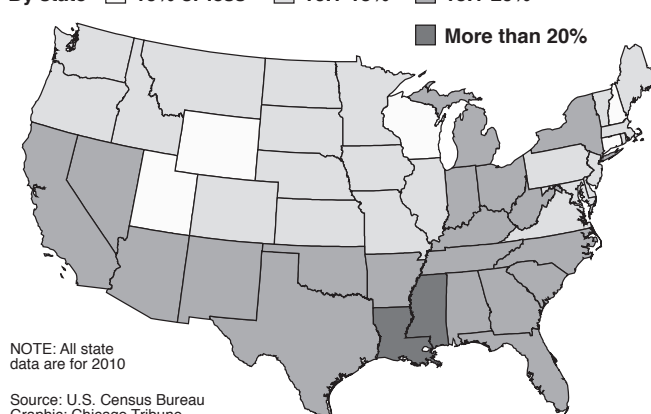
New data from the Census Bureau offer a snapshot of Americans' financial health, showing declines in income across geographic and demographic lines.

Poverty rate

By race — White — Black — Asian — Hispanic — U.S.



By state □ 10% or less □ 10.1-15% □ 15.1-20% □ More than 20%

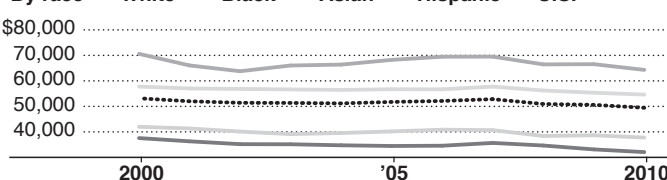


NOTE: All state data are for 2010

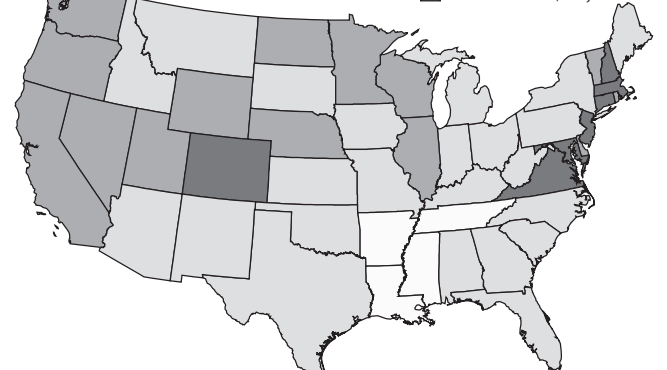
Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

Median household income

By race — White — Black — Asian — Hispanic — U.S.

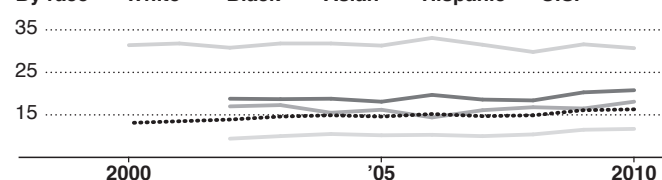


By state □ \$40,000 or less □ \$40,001-\$50,000 □ \$50,001-\$60,000 □ More than \$60,000

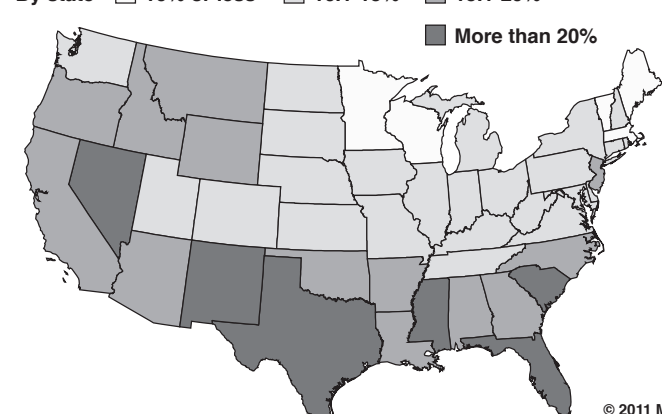


Percent of people without health insurance

By race — White — Black — Asian — Hispanic — U.S.



By state □ 10% or less □ 10.1-15% □ 15.1-20% □ More than 20%



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Health & Fitness

Divide over when to use in-depth cholesterol tests

WASHINGTON (AP)—For heart health, you're supposed to know your numbers: Total cholesterol, the bad LDL kind and the good HDL kind. But your next checkup might add a new number to the mix.

More doctors are going beyond standard cholesterol counts, using another test to take a closer look at the bad fats—a count of particles that carry LDL through the blood.

Cardiologists are divided over the usefulness of that approach. Proponents contend it might help them spot

at-risk patients that regular checks might miss, or get more information about how aggressively to treat them.

But so far, guidelines from major heart organizations don't recommend these extra tests. They're pricier than regular cholesterol exams, although Medicare and many other insurers pay for them. And it's not always clear what the results mean.

"I see a lot of people being confused," says Dr. Nieca Goldberg of New York University Langone Medical Center and the American

Heart Association. Especially when they're used on lower-risk people, "you don't know how to make sense of the information."

Yet up to half of patients diagnosed with heart disease apparently had normal levels of LDL cholesterol, and some doctors say particle testing might help find some of them sooner.

"For most people, the standard lipid profile is fine," says Dr. Michael Davidson of the University of Chicago. But "I get referred people who said, 'My cholesterol was fine, why do I

have heart disease?' We're showing them, well, because your particle number's sky high and they were not aware that was a problem."

Davidson chaired a committee of the National Lipid Association which this month called the extra tests reasonable to assess which at-risk patients might need to start or intensify cholesterol treatment. That committee's meeting was paid for by a grant from eight phar-

maceutical companies, including some makers of particle tests.

Cholesterol isn't the only factor behind heart disease. High blood pressure, smoking, obesity, diabetes or a strong family history of the disease can put someone in the high-risk category even if their cholesterol isn't a red flag. Some doctors also are testing for inflammation in arteries that may play a role, too.

Light drinking linked to slight breast cancer risk

By LINDSEY TANNER
AP MEDICAL WRITER

CHICAGO (AP)—Whether sipping beer, wine or whiskey, women who drink just three alcoholic beverages a week face slightly higher chances for developing breast cancer compared with teetotalers, a study of more than 100,000 U.S. nurses found.

The link between alcohol and breast cancer isn't new, but most previous studies found no increased risk for breast cancer among light drinkers. The new research provides compelling evidence because it followed so many women for up to almost 30 years, experts said.

Still, the study only shows an association between alcohol and breast cancer; it doesn't prove that drinking causes the disease. There could be some other reason light drinkers appeared to be at higher risk - maybe they were less active than nondrinkers or had unhealthy diets, said Dr. Susan Love, a breast cancer expert and author who runs a Santa Monica, Calif.-based research foundation.

Women in the study who averaged three to six drinks a week throughout the study had a 15 percent higher chance of developing breast cancer than nondrinkers. That risk means, for example, that among women in their 50s, who on average face a 2.38 percent risk for breast cancer, light drinking would result in 4 additional cases of breast cancer per 1,000 women

ON THE NET
■ JAMA: <http://www.jama.ama-assn.org>
■ National Cancer Institute: <http://1.usa.gov/gv2JSo>

Risks increased by 10 percent for every 10 grams of alcohol consumed daily. That's equal to a little less than one 12-ounce bottle of beer, a 4-ounce glass of wine or a shot of whiskey. The increasingly elevated risks were a little higher than seen in other research. It made no difference whether the women drank liquor, beer and wine.

Given research suggesting that drinking moderate amounts of alcohol including red wine may protect against heart disease, deciding whether to avoid alcohol is a personal choice that should be based on a woman's other risks for breast cancer and heart disease, the researchers said.

The study appears in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association. It began in 1980, asking healthy, mostly white nurses aged 30 to 55 to fill out periodic questionnaires about lifestyle and risk factors for cancer and heart disease. Follow-up ended in 2008 or when women died or were diagnosed with cancer.

The researchers took into account other cancer risk factors, including age of menstruation and menopause, family history, weight and smoking, and still found a link with alcohol.

The strongest risks were seen with

cumulative consistent alcohol use throughout the study. Increased risks also were seen in binge drinkers - women who consumed at least three drinks daily in a typical month. The results do not apply to women who may have partied hard during week-long vacations but otherwise rarely drank, said lead author Dr. Wendy Chen, a researcher at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and an assistant professor at Harvard Medical School.

"No one should feel guilty about one particular week or two," Chen said.

The results don't mean women can avoid breast cancer by not drinking, and they don't answer whether women can lower their risk if they stop drinking, said breast cancer specialist Dr. David Winchester, chief of surgical oncology with NorthShore University HealthSystem in Evanston, Ill.

Drinking alcohol "is definitely not one of the leading explanations" for why breast cancer develops, he said. "It's one of many contributing factors."

Cancer researcher Jo Freudenheim noted that the risks linked with alcohol, shown in this study and others, are much lower than those associated with smoking and lung cancer.

The study "doesn't change the picture; it just brings it into a little sharper focus," said Freudenheim, head of social and preventive medicine at the University at Buffalo.

Too posh to push? More C-sections on demand in UK

LONDON (AP)—Pregnant women in Britain, where the government provides free health care, may soon be able to get a cesarean section on demand thanks to a rule change that critics describe as the health system caving into the "too posh to push" crowd.

Currently, British women who can't afford to pay private doctors for their baby's delivery have been allowed to have planned C-sections only if there are health concerns for mother or baby. Emergency C-sections are done when the situation demands it.

But new guidelines set to take effect later this month say pregnant women "with no identifiable reason" should be allowed a cesarean if they still want it following a discussion with mental health experts.

"It's about time women who have no desire to view labor as a rite of passage into motherhood be able to choose how they want to have their baby," said Pauline Hull, who has had two children by cesarean because of medical reasons. "The important



Pauline Hull, who runs a website about elective cesarean child birth, C-sections, poses for picture with her children in Farnham, England, in this photo dated Thursday, Nov. 3, 2011.

thing to me was meeting my baby, not the experience of labor."

Hull runs the website, Elective Cesarean, from her home in Surrey, south of London. She said midwives tend to overexaggerate the risks of C-sections and underestimate those of vaginal births.

The new draft guidelines come from the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence, or NICE. The agency's guidelines are usually accepted by the government and determine what will be paid for by its health system.

"In general, a C-section is a safe operation, especially when performed as a planned procedure," the new guidance says.

The agency says it routinely updates guidance every few years and denies there was any pressure to change its more restrictive C-section advice. But in recent years, advocates and some doctors have slammed the U.K. health system for not giving women a greater say in childbirth.

FDA approves innovative, non-invasive heart valve

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal health officials have approved a first-of-a-kind artificial heart valve that can be implanted without major surgery, offering a new treatment option for patients who are too old or frail for the chest-cracking procedure currently used.

The Food and Drug Administration said late Wednesday it approved Edwards Lifesciences' Sapien heart valve, which can be threaded into place through a major artery that runs from the leg up to the heart. Cardiologists say the highly anticipated new approach will help old, sickly patients who cannot undergo the more invasive open heart surgery, which has been used to replace valves for decades.

Other companies have won approval for less-invasive heart valves before, but Edwards' implant is the first replacement for the aortic valve, the heart's main doorway.

About 300,000 U.S. patients suffer from deterioration of the valve, which forces the heart to work harder to pump blood, often leading to heart failure, blood clots and sudden death. More than half of patients diagnosed with the condition, called aortic stenosis, die within two years, according to the FDA.

Every year about 50,000 people in the U.S. undergo open-heart surgery to replace the valve, which involves sawing the breastbone in half, stopping the heart, cutting out the old valve and sewing a new one into place. Thousands of other patients are turned away, deemed too old or ill to survive the operation.

The Mayo Clinic's Dr. David Holmes said the Sapien valve is a "game changer" for those inoperable patients, many of whom are in their 80s with medical conditions like diabetes, emphysema and liver disease.

Personal Trainer

Hazard to female marathoners

Many women get life-enhancing benefits from long-distance running, but an insidious "triad" of three related health problems is a significant risk.

Female Athlete Triad

Was first noticed in young females training for gymnastics, dance, skating

Can also occur in female long-distance runners of any age or skill level

1 Disordered eating

Unrealistic weight-loss goals lead to bulimia (binge-purge eating) or anorexia in extreme cases

2 Amenorrhea (no monthly period)

Examples: No period in three consecutive months, fewer than three periods a year, 35- to 90-day gap between periods

Usual cause: Malfunction of brain's hormone-regulating hypothalamus

3 Osteoporosis

Estrogen level drops; body absorbs more bone than it builds; skeleton weakens

If you miss periods while training for a marathon, see a doctor promptly

Other triad symptoms: Fatigue, anemia, electrolyte abnormalities, depression

Source: University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Sports Nutrition Program, WomenSport International, American College of Sports Medicine

Life & Style

Andy Rooney, wry '60 Minutes' commentator, dies

NEW YORK (AP)—Andy Rooney so dreaded the day he had to end his signature “60 Minutes” commentaries about life’s large and small absurdities that he kept going until he was 92 years old.

Even then, he said he wasn’t retiring. Writers never retire. But his life after the end of “A Few Minutes With Andy Rooney” was short: He died Friday night, according to CBS, only a month after delivering his 1,097th and final televised commentary.

Rooney had gone to the hospital for an undisclosed surgery, but major complications developed and he never recovered.

“Andy always said he wanted to work until the day he died, and he managed to do it, save the last few weeks in the hospital,” said his “60 Min-

utes” colleague, correspondent Steve Kroft.

Rooney talked on “60 Minutes” about what was in the news, and his opinions occasionally got him in trouble. But he was just as likely to discuss the old clothes in his closet, why air travel had become unpleasant and why banks needed to have important-sounding names.

Rooney won one of his four Emmy Awards for a piece on whether there was a real Mrs. Smith who made Mrs. Smith’s Pies. As it turned out, there was no Mrs. Smith.

“I obviously have a knack for getting on paper what a lot of people have thought and didn’t realize they thought,” Rooney once said. “And they say, ‘Hey, yeah!’ And they like that.”

Looking for something new



AP
In this Aug. 9, 2009 file photo, 60 Minutes’ Andy Rooney, center, leaves the Celebration of Life Memorial ceremony for Walter Cronkite at Avery Fisher Hall in New York.

to punctuate its weekly broadcast, “60 Minutes” aired its first Rooney commentary on July

2, 1978. He complained about people who keep track of how many people die in car accidents on holiday weekends. In fact, he said, the Fourth of July is “one of the safest weekends of the year to be going someplace.”

More than three decades later, he was railing about how unpleasant air travel had become. “Let’s make a statement to the airlines just to get their attention,” he said. “We’ll pick a week next year and we’ll all agree not to go anywhere for seven days.”

In early 2009, as he was about to turn 90, Rooney looked ahead to President Barack Obama’s upcoming inauguration with a look at past inaugurations. He told viewers that Calvin Coolidge’s 1925 swearing-in was the first to be broadcast on

radio, adding, “That may have been the most interesting thing Coolidge ever did.”

“Words cannot adequately express Andy’s contribution to the world of journalism and the impact he made—as a colleague and a friend—upon everybody at CBS,” said Leslie Moonves, CBS Corp. president and CEO.

Jeff Fager, CBS News chairman and “60 Minutes” executive producer, said “it’s hard to imagine not having Andy around. He loved his life and he lived it on his own terms. We will miss him very much.”

“60 Minutes” will end its broadcast Sunday with a tribute to Rooney by veteran correspondent Morley Safer.

For his final essay, Rooney said that he’d live a life luckier than most.

“I wish I could do this forever. I can’t, though,” he said.

He said he probably hadn’t said anything on “60 Minutes” that most of his viewers didn’t already know or hadn’t thought. “That’s what a writer does,” he said. “A writer’s job is to tell the truth.”

True to his occasional crotchety nature, though, he complained about being famous or bothered by fans. His last wish from fans: If you see him in a restaurant, just let him eat his dinner.

Rooney was a freelance writer in 1949 when he encountered CBS radio star Arthur Godfrey in an elevator and—with the bluntness millions of people learned about later—told him his show could use better writing. Godfrey hired him and by 1953, when he moved to TV, Rooney was his only writer.

He wrote for CBS’ Garry Moore during the early 1960s before settling into a partnership with Harry Reasoner at CBS News. Given a challenge to write on any topic, he wrote “An Essay on Doors” in 1964, and continued with contemplations on bridges, chairs and women.

“The best work I ever did,” Rooney said. “But nobody knows I can do it or ever did it. Nobody knows that I’m a writer and producer. They think I’m this guy on television.”

He became such a part of the culture that comic Joe Piscopo satirized Rooney’s squeaky voice with the refrain, “Did you ever ...” Rooney never started any of his essays that way. For many years, “60 Minutes” improbably was the most popular program on television and a dose of Rooney was what people came to expect for a knowing smile on the night before they had to go back to work.

Rooney left CBS in 1970 when it refused to air his angry essay about the Vietnam War. He went on TV for the first time, reading the essay on PBS and winning a Writers Guild of America award for it.

He returned to CBS three years later as a writer and producer of specials. Notable among them was the 1975 “Mr. Rooney Goes to Washington,” whose lighthearted but serious look at government won him a Peabody Award for excellence in broadcasting.

His words sometimes landed Rooney in hot water. CBS suspended him for three months in 1990 for making racist remarks in an interview, which he denied. Rooney, who was arrested in Florida while in the Army in the 1940s for refusing to leave a seat among blacks on a bus, was hurt deeply by the charge of racism.

Mom says Kim Kardashian ‘heartbroken’ over divorce

NEW YORK (AP)—Kim Kardashian is “heartbroken” over her decision to divorce professional basketball player Kris Humphries after only two months of marriage, but life will go on, her mother says. “Just because somebody is getting a divorce doesn’t mean life is over,” mom Kris Jenner said. “She’s not the first person to get a divorce, and she won’t be the last, no matter what the length of the marriage.”

Jenner, who divorced Kardashian’s father, O.J. Simpson’s attorney Robert Kardashian, in the early 1990s and is married to former Olympic decathlon gold medalist Bruce Jenner, said reports her reality TV star daughter’s relationship was made for TV are false.

“That would be insulting to this wonderful viewership that has followed us from Day 1,” she said. “I don’t think any of us are in that kind of situation where we have to go out and ... create opportunities to make more money. I think we are just fine.”

She also said the family members won’t stop sharing their lives with the public.

“(The breakup) doesn’t mean that the rest of us are going to change our personalities in any way and, you know, completely turn into different people,” she said Thursday. “We’re going to carry on and hopefully be much stronger as human beings and as a family.”

After Kardashian, 31, filed for divorce earlier this week, citing irreconcilable differences, she left for a business trip to Australia with her sister Khloe Kardashian.

Jenner said it was important

for Kim Kardashian to follow through on her business commitment.

“She takes a great deal of pride in her business relationships, and she’s let a lot of people down, especially her family, she feels, on a personal level,” Jenner said. “So, for her to let anyone else down is hard for her. She wanted to go, and these commitments were made months and months ago and something that she feels responsible for.”

Kardashian made it to Australia on Tuesday but ended up cutting the trip short.

Jenner, meanwhile, had planned to make the media rounds this week in New York City to promote her new memoir, “Kris Jenner ... and All Things Kardashian.”

Kardashian’s decision to split from her husband after just 72 days moved the attention off her



AP
In this image released by NBC, co-hosts Hoda Kotb, left, and Kathie Lee Gifford listen to Kris Jenner, mother of Kim Kardashian, during an appearance on the “Today” show to talk about her new book “All Things Kardashian” and also about the recent split between her daughter Kim and husband Kris Humphries, Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2011 in New York.

mother’s book and onto her.

Jenner said Kardashian needs to weather the storm.

“Right now, the best advice I

can give her is to just keep your head held high and ... get her heart in the right place,” Jenner said. “That’s all I care about.”

Jenner said she hadn’t spoken with Humphries about the split and didn’t know if her daughter had, either.

Native American group slams Kardashian mom comment

By **MANUEL VALDES**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Native American group is denouncing a comment Kim Kardashian’s mother made on national television as being “wrong and hurtful.”

The comment from Kardashian’s mom, Kris Jenner, came on “Good Morning America” Thursday, when Jenner was asked if her daughter should return Kris Humphries’ \$2 million engagement ring after their 72-day marriage ended.

Jenner responded with a laugh, saying: “Well, I hate an Indian giver. Don’t you? It’s a gift. Keep your gift.”

The National Congress

of American Indians wasn’t amused.

“The phrase ‘Indian giving’ is wrong and hurtful,” Jacqueline Johnson Pata, executive director of the tribal advocacy group, said in a statement.

“The cultural values of Native Americans are based on giving unconditionally and empowering those around them. Instead this cultural value is forgotten when negative stereotyping of Native people occurs.”

Pata noted that November is Native American Heritage Month and invited the Jenner and Kardashian family to “join with the country in learning more” about American Indian culture.

An email message to Jenner’s representative wasn’t immediately returned Friday.

The E! reality star’s comment also drew attention online, with several bloggers discussing the origin and derogatory nature of the term “Indian giver.”

“What it boils down to is misunderstandings” that date back more than 200 years, Indian Country Today Media Network reported on its website.

Back then, Native Americans conducted trade using a barter system and considered gift-giving an extension of that system. “Europeans, upon encountering this practice, misunderstood it, con-

sidering it uncouth and impolite,” said the report, citing WordOrigins.org.

Earlier this year, the National Congress of American Indians criticized the use of the code name “Geronimo” for the operation that killed Osama bin Laden.

Geronimo was an Apache leader revered by many in the Southwest. NCAI President Jefferson Keel said at the time that the use of a Native American term “undermines the military service of Native people.”

“It’s critical that military leaders and operational standards honor the service of those who protect our freedom,” Keel said.

Justin Bieber denies charges he fathered a child

NEW YORK (AP)—Justin Bieber has denied allegations he fathered a child in a backstage bathroom and says he has never met the woman who filed the paternity suit against him.

"To set the record straight, none of it is true," the 17-year-old teen heartthrob declared Friday during a brief appearance on NBC's "Today" show.

As mobs of fans screamed adoringly in Rockefeller Plaza, Bieber called it "crazy" that anyone would make up such a story.

"I know I'm going to be a target, but I'm never going to be a victim," Bieber told "Today" host Matt Lauer. "It's crazy, because every night after the show I've gone right from the stage right to my car. So it's crazy that some people want to make up such false allegations."

The singer attracted what appeared to be hundreds of fans as he briefly chatted with the "Today" hosts, straining to be heard above the earsplitting screams.

The paternity suit was filed in San Diego Superior Court by Mariah Yeater earlier this

week. She had just turned 19 when she says she and Bieber, then 16, had a brief sexual encounter after one of the singer's concerts last fall at Los Angeles' Staples Center.

She said she gave birth to a boy in July and believes Bieber is the father because there were no other possible men she had sex with at that time.



In this image released by NBC, singer Justin Bieber poses with a fan as he makes an appearance to talk about his new CD "Under The Mistletoe" on the "Today" show, Friday, Nov. 4, 2011 in New York.

Asked if he knows Yeater, Bieber told Lauer, "Never met the woman."

Yeater is asking a judge for child support and a paternity test. A hearing is scheduled for Dec. 15. Her lawyer has described her as a stay-at-home mother who is looking for adequate child support if a paternity test determines Bie-

ber is the father.

And in Los Angeles, police have said Yeater could be investigated for having had sex with a minor in connection with the Bieber claim. It's illegal in California to have sex with someone under age 18. If the other person is not more than three years older, it is a misdemeanor, which carries up to a one-year jail sentence.

Along with knocking down rumors, Bieber's "Today" appearance was apparently timed to the release of a Christmas album.

"It's hard to record a Christmas album in September," he said.

Bieber returns to "Today" for a live musical appearance on Nov. 23.

Herman Cain set for Jimmy Kimmel show Monday

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Herman Cain is taking his campaign to a new platform: late-night television.

ABC's "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" said Friday that the Republican presidential hopeful will be a guest on the show Monday.

Cain may be in need of a few laughs with Kimmel. Although Cain has risen in voter polls, the one-time Godfathers Pizza CEO has been confronting more than decade-old allegations of sexual harassment made when he was head of the National Restaurant Association.

Cain has repeatedly denied ever sexually harassing anyone and tried to return to normal campaigning Friday with a speech in Washington, D.C., about the economy.

Spain dubs Benicio del Toro, Ricky Martin citizens

MADRID (AP)—The Spanish government says it has granted citizenship to singer Ricky Martin and actor Benicio del Toro.

Spokesman Jose Blanco said Friday that Martin and del Toro were recognized for their artistic talents and that the government was happy they wished to have Spanish nationality.

Both Martin and del Toro are from Puerto Rico and have U.S. citizenship.

Spain normally obliges people to renounce any other nationality they have before granting them a Spanish passport, but it makes exceptions for citizens from Latin American countries and some other places including Puerto Rico.

It was not immediately clear why the two celebrities sought Spanish citizenship.

Lonely boy needs wife's sympathy, not suspicion

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Our neighbor's son, "Donny," has become a regular fixture in our home. His parents divorced years ago, and his father is terminally ill.

Donny has "adopted" me as a father figure. We have spent a great deal of time together. Not having a son—I have daughters—I admit that being with him is a novelty.

My wife, on the other hand, feels no one should "infiltrate" her family. There are few boys in our neighborhood, and Donny isn't old enough to venture to other streets in search of playmates. I can't bring myself to turn him away knowing how lonely he is and how difficult his life will become. I worry that he's a prime candidate for a predator, or that he could start drinking or smoking at an early age. I'd rather have him in our house where I know he's safe.

My wife says we can't save everyone, and I know that. But when I hear about the bad things that happen to kids on the news, it makes me wonder where was someone who could have helped them.

How can I get my wife to see this is a chance to make a difference in this boy's life, and that he's no threat to our family unit?

FRIEND OF A LONELY CHILD

DEAR FRIEND: Your wife appears to be responding to Donny on an emotional rather than a rational level. Because she didn't "produce" a son, she views the time or emotional nourishment that you give Donny as something being taken away from her daughters. That's sad.

It's possible that a religious adviser could help her to view this differently, but if she can't find sympathy in her heart for the boy, then I recommend you talk to Donny's mother about finding a Big Brother for him, through her religious denomination.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My 16-year-old son, "Victor," is hearing-impaired. He wears hearing aids in both ears. The aids are small and not easily seen.

Recently we were in a new doctor's office, and the nurse was talking to my son but looking in another direction. When I explained that Victor is hearing-impaired and couldn't hear her, she replied, "Oh, I know teenagers—selective hearing." I said, "No, he is hearing-impaired and wears hearing aids."

The same thing happened at summer camp. My husband said Victor has a hearing problem, and the counselor responded with, "So I need to smack him on the side of his head to get him to listen?"

Please inform your readers that hearing aids aren't just for older people. My son has informed people he wears hearing aids because he can't hear well, and he still gets the same smart-alecky retorts. Have you any suggestions?

NOT BEING FLIPPANT IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR NOT BEING FLIPPANT: Oh, yes. The nurse in your doctor's office was tactless. If she didn't apologize for her comment, you should have mentioned it to the doctor so he could educate her not only about hearing loss, but also about diplomacy. As to the ignorant camp counselor, your husband should have immediately reported it to the camp director.

After reading your letter, I consulted Dr. Rick Friedman at the House Ear Clinic in Los Angeles, who told me that approximately one in 2,000 children is born with hearing problems. (There is a genetic component, and hearing problems can run in families.) Being subjected to loud noises can also have a negative impact on hearing, and Dr. Friedman said studies are being conducted to determine to what extent.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Woman suing Bieber faces Vegas battery trial

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A San Diego woman who claims pop star Justin Bieber fathered her 3-month-old son has a court date in Las Vegas on allegations she slapped an ex-boyfriend.

Court records show 20-year-old Mariah Yeater faces a bench trial Dec. 12 on a misdemeanor



Yeater

battery charge that could get her six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

A police report says Yeater slapped her 18-year-old ex-boyfriend Dec. 21, 2010. The two were arguing about a window broken on the car of his new girlfriend.

The case was first reported by TMZ.

Yeater's lawyer in the battery case, John Spilotro, says she pleaded not guilty, and he declined to comment further.

Yeater attended school in Las Vegas before withdrawing from 10th grade in 2008.

She is suing the 17-year-old Bieber in California, seeking a paternity test and child support.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

'Porky's' actor Knight commits suicide in Hawaii

KULA, Hawaii (AP)—Wyatt Knight, who starred in the 1980s "Porky's" films, has been found dead in Hawaii with a self-inflicted gunshot wound. He was 56. A family statement Friday said the actor chose to end his life after a painful bout with non-Hodgkin lymphoma, which was in stage 4. He underwent radiation treatments that left him in "physical and emotional pain," and had a bone marrow transplant in 2003. "He was tired of the pain and after much contemplation, chose to end his life in a beautiful and a serene place," the statement said. "His family and friends are devastated. He was deeply loved by all who knew him and will be missed every day."

'Parrot Head' Jimmy Buffett fans celebrate in Fla.

KEYWEST, Fla. (AP)—About 3,500 fans of Jimmy Buffett are celebrating the singer's music and laid-back island attitude in Key West, Fla. Attendees at the 20th Parrot Heads Convention were surprised Friday afternoon

when Buffett made a rare appearance with his Coral Reefer Band. He played for more than an hour. Many of his 15 songs featured lyrics recalling people and places he knew while living in Key West during the 1970s and 80s. The convention of "Parrot Head" fans, named for their offbeat tropical headgear, continues through Sunday. It will feature more performances and a charity auction. Organizers say that since 2002, members of about 200 chapters have contributed over \$20 million and nearly 3 million volunteer hours to local and national causes.

'Wonka' actor who played Violet's dad dies at 87

ENCINITAS, Calif. (AP)—Leonard Stone, who played the father who accompanied chronic gum-chewer Violet Beauregarde on a tour through a far-out candy palace in "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory," has died. Granddaughter Lindsey Fryman-Borchard tells The Associated Press that Stone died of cancer Wednesday in Encinitas, Calif., a day before his 88th birthday. He was best known as fast-talking father

Sam Beauregarde in the 1971 film that starred Gene Wilder as Willy Wonka. Stone watches in horror as his daughter turns into a giant blueberry and utters the famous line "Violet, you're turning violet, Violet!"

Rap producer Shawty Redd cleared of murder charge

McDONOUGH, Ga. (AP)—Music producer Shawty Redd has been found not guilty of a murder charge that stemmed from his 2010 New Year's Day arrest. Redd, whose real name is Demetrius Lee Stewart, was accused of shooting 35-year-old Damon A. Martin of Detroit during an argument at Stewart's home in Hampton, about 30 miles southeast of Atlanta. Henry County District Attorney Tommy Floyd says Redd was cleared of the murder charge Thursday after judge Wade Crumbley determined that the producer acted in self-defense. Redd became known for producing tracks for Rick Ross, Young Jeezy and Gucci Mane. His breakthrough came when he produced Snoop Dogg's 2007 single "Sexual Seduction."

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

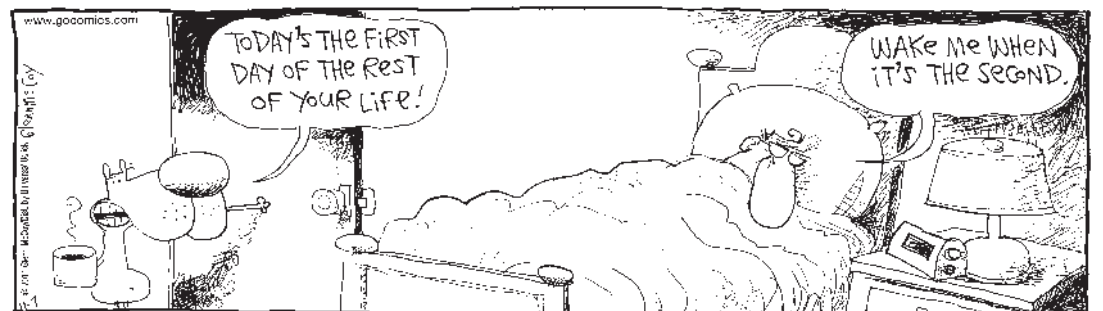


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Wrigley product
4 Cleopatra's snake
7 Highway
11 From the start
13 Zero
14 Loosen
15 Peru's capital
16 Genetic evidence
17 Gas in signs
18 Coral ring
20 Potter's oven
22 Youngster
24 Rid of frost
28 Custodian
32 Battery terminal
33 Prayer ending
34 Card player's call
36 Stefani Germanotta, a.k.a. Lady —

DOWN

37 Neighbor of Leo and Libra
39 Klutz
41 Makes sense
43 Chinese "way"
44 Jog
46 Peppermint —
50 Bamako's country
53 Knight's address
55 Comical Caroline
56 Grand story
57 Anger
58 Sketch
60 Danson or Nugent

21 Meadow
23 Pooch
25 Furnace
26 Rim
27 Darling
28 Coffee, slangily
29 Surrounding
30 Uncool sort
31 Cage component
35 Pecan or almond
38 "— Town"
40 Atlas page
42 Suggest
45 Grow weary
47 By way of, for short
48 Rip
49 Show boredom
50 "Family Guy" daughter
51 Gorilla
52 Whopper
54 Crimson

Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer 11-7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11			12					14	
15				16				17	
18			19		20	21			
		22		23		24		25	26
28	29	30		31		32			
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		44		45		46		47	48
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56				57				58	
59				60					61

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason and Jeremy London, 39; Todd McKee, 48; Joni Mitchell, 68.

Happy Birthday: Getting together with friends and family will affect the way you feel about life and love. Sharing your thoughts, ideas and plans for the future will help you finish what you start. Good fortune is evident if you work with someone you love in order to build a better future. Your numbers are 4, 9, 14, 23, 34, 37, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You've got talent, so show everyone what you can do. Financial, contractual and personal opportunities are apparent and should be taken advantage of swiftly. You'll find something you want at a price that fits your budget. Love and romance are highlighted. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make subtle changes to your personal records and financial investments. You can uncover interesting information if you discuss your options with someone in the know. Networking will lead to an opportunity you cannot ignore. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll get more help than you expect if you ask for it. A partnership will enable you to get more done. A property deal, or making alterations at home or to your financial situation, will bring you greater opportunities in the future. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be careful whom you trust. Not everyone will have honorable intentions. A change may not be welcome, but in the end it will be beneficial. Put a little pressure on someone who

has made you a promise. Display what you have to offer. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't stop believing in what you can do. A change of attitude will boost your confidence as well as your reputation. You can make changes that will help you attract greater interest personally as well as professionally. Romance is in the stars. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Look at your options and do whatever it takes to maintain your financial position. Personal problems should be taken care of before they become too hard to handle. Be proactive with anyone or anything that disrupts your status. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look at partnerships positively. Make the most of any relationship by enforcing give-and-take in order to equalize your position. Love is in the stars, and planning a romantic evening will pay off. Take advantage of an investment opportunity. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Take time out to make personal changes that will enhance your life, looks or attitude. Connecting with someone who inspires you will open a window of opportunity as well, enabling you to invent a new way to offer your services. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Gravitate toward people, places and new possibilities. Go with the grain to accomplish your goals and more. Positive changes in your personal life will add to your happiness. An old friend has something to offer. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be careful how you deal with people pushing to get something from you. Whatever you offer must be minimal or you will be taken advantage of financially, with continuing requests for more. Keep your financial situation a secret. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Share your thoughts and you will become a valuable commodity to a group you are working alongside. Greater security will develop if you make alterations in order to get the most for the least. Moderation and simplicity are the keys to longevity. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will be misinterpreted if you are inconsistent or pushy in the way you present what you have to offer. Stick as close to reality as possible. Offering something that you cannot produce will hurt your reputation. Honesty and integrity are essential. ***

Birthday Baby: You are a pioneer and a powerhouse mentally, physically and emotionally. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

1			2	4	3			7
		9				6		
	5			1			2	
9			4		7			2
4		3				9		1
6			8		1			5
	4			5			8	
		1				7		
5			9	7	8			3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

5	6	7	2	3	8	9	1	4
8	2	1	4	7	9	3	6	5
9	4	3	1	6	5	8	2	7
2	1	4	9	8	3	5	7	6
6	5	9	7	2	1	4	3	8
3	7	8	6	5	4	2	9	1
1	3	5	8	9	7	6	4	2
4	8	6	3	1	2	7	5	9
7	9	2	5	4	6	1	8	3

Difficulty Level ★

11/07

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID QUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The letter letters spell the Wonderword.

HOLIDAY MINCEMEAT PIES

Solution: 7 letters

N	D	C	D	S	T	D	R	E	K	A	B	T	F	M
U	I	E	L	E	T	A	N	M	R	R	C	L	A	S
T	S	A	E	O	I	R	A	I	A	A	R	E	C	
M	H	W	R	S	V	R	A	N	R	N	G	S	R	E
E	S	I	I	T	M	E	D	T	O	A	S	U	D	S
G	T	N	S	A	S	Y	X	I	R	A	S	A	S	U
S	S	M	L	T	R	E	T	I	L	T	T	T	E	
H	R	A	I	T	A	I	N	O	A	E	S	I	A	
R	D	E	S	X	D	E	M	O	S	P	T	E	P	R
E	O	A	M	A	T	N	R	F	M	P	P	S	Z	S
D	P	V	R	M	T	U	T	L	E	I	L	A	I	
I	V	T	A	C	I	T	R	O	N	O	L	C	E	T
C	O	R	E	L	O	S	E	E	P	R	U	N	E	S
S	T	I	U	R	F	O	A	M	D	N	A	R	G	D
C	I	S	S	A	L	C	K	G	N	I	L	L	I	F

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Apples, Bake, Brandy, Cider, Citron, Classic, Clove, Cook, Core, Crust, Dates, Dish, Dried, Extract, Filling, Flavor, Flour, Fruits, Grandma, Lemon, Margarine, Marmalade, Mixture, Molasses, Nutmeg, Pastry, Pound, Prunes, Raisins, Rind, Salt, Seed, Shred, Simmer, Spiced, Star, Stir, Strain, Suet, Sugar, Sweet, Tarts, Taste, Tips, Traditional, Treat, Zest
Last Saturday's Answer: Seafood
Puzzle THE COLORFUL AND BRIGHT, Volume 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 use 55 letters. 30 Letters are left. 31 Letters are left. 32 Letters are left. 33 Letters are left. 34 Letters are left. 35 Letters are left. 36 Letters are left. 37 Letters are left. 38 Letters are left. 39 Letters are left. 40 Letters are left. 41 Letters are left. 42 Letters are left. 43 Letters are left. 44 Letters are left. 45 Letters are left. 46 Letters are left. 47 Letters are left. 48 Letters are left. 49 Letters are left. 50 Letters are left. 51 Letters are left. 52 Letters are left. 53 Letters are left. 54 Letters are left. 55 Letters are left. 56 Letters are left. 57 Letters are left. 58 Letters are left. 59 Letters are left. 60 Letters are left. 61 Letters are left. 62 Letters are left. 63 Letters are left. 64 Letters are left. 65 Letters are left. 66 Letters are left. 67 Letters are left. 68 Letters are left. 69 Letters are left. 70 Letters are left. 71 Letters are left. 72 Letters are left. 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CLASSIFIED ADS



Job Vacancy Announcement

ASIA 360 INC.

(1) Accountant: At least 5 years work experience in wholesale business. Must have a Bachelors Degree in Accounting. Proficient knowledge in Microsoft Office, Peachtree Accounting and Quick Books accounting software. Salary: \$10.00 - \$11.50/hr

(1) Administrative Assistant: 2 years experience in wholesale business. Proficient knowledge in Microsoft Office,

Interested Qualified US Workers may send resume to rbval11@yahoo.com

Job Vacancy Announcement

Household Worker (1)

Salary \$ 5.05 per hour.
Responsibilities include general household work, cooking, and related tasks. Knows how to operate washing machine, vacuum cleaner and cooking appliances, trustworthy, reliable, and willing to work flexible hours for families and other business clients. Employee must have at least two years experience. Submit resume to: Pete A Consulting, P.O. Box 500042, Saipan MP 96950 no later than Thursday, November 10, 2011. Call for interview: 483-5870

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Yano Enterprises, Inc.

Maintenance (1): Must have a valid CNMI driver's license & be flexible in work hours. Must be capable of supervising & doing advanced levels of skilled trade works (electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscaping) & be proficient in using equipment including hand & power tools.

Cook (1): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 years experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Garapan, Hotel Street. No phone calls please.

New Sunrise Corporation Job Vacancy Announcement

(4) Transportation Driver
(12) Taxi Driver
Min. 3 yrs of working experience preferably in the hotel industry. Good customer service and interpersonal skills are essential. Must be a holder of a valid CNMI Driver's License. CNMI Taxi Driver's license and CNMI Taxi Bureau Identification Card. Current Police Clearance, Traffic Clearance and Traffic History. Must have valid CNMI Drivers Fitness Medical Certificate and willing to work flexible schedule including early morning, night, weekends and holidays. Foreign language speaking skills is highly preferred.

(1) Manager, Sales & Marketing
Min. 3 yrs work experience as manager in Sales & Marketing. Responsible for developing, establishing and maintaining marketing strategies to meet organizational objectives. Able to work independently. Good organizational and planning skills are essential. Accountable for customer satisfaction and providing high quality service in representing company.

Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment. All positions will close on November 14, 2011.

Please mail your resume with attached copies of relevant supporting documents to: P.O. Box 505383 Saipan, MP 96950 or Email: nsc.rahman@gmail.com

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

WHATZIT Solution: Straightlaced

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

- (1) Tutor for High School and College Students**
- Must have a Bachelor's Degree majoring in Math or Science from a U.S. Accredited Institution.
 - Must have valid CNMI-PSS Teaching Certificate for Secondary Level
 - Must have experience teaching in a post-secondary level, cross-cultural environment.
 - Work Schedule: Mon-Fri 4:00pm - 9:00pm and weekends as needed.
 - Salary: \$6.00 per hour

- (1) Accountant**
- 5 years minimum experience in general accounting
 - Proficient in Peachtree Accounting Software
 - Works with less supervision, honest and dependable.

Background checks, and knowledge testing may be done prior to employment.

Qualified US workers can submit their resume with Certificate of employment and police clearance to 2nd Flr. of Quad L's Bldg. (Where Bank of Saipan, Garapan Branch is located) or you may send it to quadlsc@companyopticom.com

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

EMPLOYMENT

6 Household Workers \$5.05-\$5.50/hr. MTO Maintenance (Spn), Inc. email admin@mtosaipan.com tel 7897306

**STYROFOAM
4'X8' SHEETS
TEL.: 287-3700**

EMPLOYMENT

1 Accountant \$5.05-\$12.00/hr. Email joe.c.guerrero@gmail.com. Saint Joseph's Medical tel 2334582

6 Maids/Housekeeping Cleaners, 1 Maintenance Worker. Email saipanmachinery@yahoo.com. SPN MACHINERY, INC.

1-Commercial Cleaner and 1-Houseworker Minimum of 1 or 2 yrs work related experience. Interested individuals may contact Ronny's Rental at 235-0001.

1-Business Consultant \$5.55/hr, Bachelor's Degree in Economics, min 5 yrs exp. Must speak, write & read Japanese. Email resume to info@jobmar.com no later than Nov. 9, 2011 JOB MARKET USA CORPORATION

1-Accounts Payable/Payroll Accountant-\$5.05-\$6.50/hour, Bachelor's Degree in Bus. Admin., 5 yrs experience, knowledge in JD Edwards software, Sage ABRA payroll modules preferred, willing to work off-site. Qualified US applicants may

EMPLOYMENT

mail resume to RR & Associates, PO Box 504039, Saipan, MP 96950 or call (670) 233-8391.

2-Heavy Equipment Operator. Must have at least 3 years work experience in construction business. Interested Qualified US Workers can drop resume to ASC Arch Structure Corporation Chalan Kiya, Saipan.

1-Auto Mechanic, 1-Fisherman, 12 Housekeeping/Janitorial Cleaners. \$5.05/hr. Contact 235-8097 to fax resume or email to janilos2007@gmail.com. SANDOR COMPANY

2 Landscaper & Ground-keeping. Workers \$5.05-\$5.50/hr. MTO. Maintenance (Spn), Inc. email admin@mtosaipan.com tel 7897306

Construction/Maint. \$5.05/hr. w/3 yrs exp. Extensive knwldg in masonry, plumbing, electrical & carpentry. Can read blueprint & can work w/o supervision. Able to lift heavy blocks & flexible in work sched. Send resume to maniacop_lydia@yahoo.com. GMA Corp. dba NMI Contractor.

1-Manager. 3-5 yrs experience. 1-Cook 3-5 years experience. Able to cook all kinds of Chinese food. Send resume to Alice International Corporation to P.O. Box 505530 Saipan, MP 96950. Tel. 235-6666.

MISA ENTERPRISES

P.O. Box 500089 Saipan 96950
Tel# 234-6900

GENERAL MAINTENANCE (1):

REQ: Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing, repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Applicants of position listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 years of experience. Applications can be picked-up at Kinpachi Restaurant, MISA Building 4, Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. No phone calls please.



DFS SAIPAN LIMITED has a job opening for

Talent Management Manager

Primary function:

The Talent Management Manager is responsible for ensuring compliance in all Talent Management (TM) areas including Local and Federal employment laws and regulations, including but not limited to workplace safety, Wage & Salary Administration, FMLA, ADA, and Fair Employment Practices. Ensure timely compliance in reporting Federal and Local and other statutory requirements. Implements company and TM policies and oversees TM activities such as employment, compensation, employee relations and communications, benefits, training and employee services for the Division.

Position Requirements:

- Bachelors Degree in HR Management, Business or equivalent.
- 4 years management/supervisory experience in retail management.
- Familiarity with Federal and State Regulations such as ERISA, ADA, FLSA, Title VII and DOL.
- Integrated HR/Payroll systems experience desirable.
- PC, preferably Microsoft Office Software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook) required.
- Previous sales/retail experience desired.
- Ability to work under high-pressure environment and within stringent deadlines.
- Ability to work with all levels of management and staff, and in a team environment.
- Excellent written and verbal skills.
- Must maintain a high degree of confidentiality.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
- Able to work a flexible schedule.

DFS Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Applications are available at the reception area, 2nd floor of DFS Galleria Monday to Friday between 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT Executive Director

Micronesian Legal Services Corporation (MLSC) provides free legal services to people of limited financial means in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The administrative office is located in Capitol Hill, Saipan, MLSC

is seeking applications for the position of **Executive Director**, who will work at the Capitol Hill Office.

Qualifications:

A J.D. degree, or the equivalent, and at least ten years of relevant professional legal experience, preferably in the area of providing free legal services to those of limited financial means.

General Responsibilities:

The Executive Director acts as the chief executive officer of Micronesian Legal Services Corporation, and is appointed by and accountable to the Board Directors of MLSC. The Executive Director is responsible for insuring the economical and effective delivery of legal services and the maintenance of the highest quality of services and professional standards.

Duties Include:

- Develop and implement strategies to fulfill the goals of MLSC as set by the MLSC Articles of Incorporation and Board of Directors.
- Adopt rules and policies in furtherance of action taken by the Board of Directors.
- Assure implementation of and adherence to MLSC policy, in conjunction with the Deputy Director and as set forth in the Client Service Manual, Office Policies Binder, Personnel Manual, all job descriptions, and other MLSC policies.
- Assure compliance with Legal Services Corporation Regulations and instructions and funding conditions, in conjunction with the Deputy Director.
- Make staff hiring and termination decisions in accordance with personnel policies.
- Propose a budget annually to the Board of Directors, which includes staff size and configuration, staff benefits, office space and equipment, and all other expenditures.
- Supervise the preparation of the annual Refunding Application to the Legal Services Corporation and respond to inquiries regarding the Application.
- Work with Micronesian governments in conjunction with other staff members regarding annual appropriations to MLSC, and coordinate applications for other sources of funds.
- Maintain productive relations with the Board of Directors, Legal Services Corporation, and governmental and non-governmental institutions whose actions have an effect on MLSC.

Compensation and Benefits:

Compensation is dependent upon experience. Benefits include health insurance, annual leave, sick leave, and employer contribution to a 401(k) program. Please submit a resume and letter of interest by November 20, 2011, to:

By mail: Micronesian Legal Service Corporation
P.O. Box 500269, Saipan, MP 96950
By email: co@mlsnet.org

Job Announcement for Qualified U.S. Citizens

Position: 1 tour Coordinator
Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Coordinate all incoming schedules, assist in customer tour participation, explain in Japanese for all forms needed to be read and signed. Contacting other tour company for scheduling and reservations and other related duties as assigned to. Fully able to read, write and speak fluent Japanese. Must have at least 2 years experience in tour related activities.

Position: 2 Marine Sports Coordinator
Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Assist in coordinating all incoming schedules, assist in tour and marine sports participation. Explain in Japanese for all forms regarding sales promotion and schedules of the company's daily activity and perform other related duties as assigned. Fully able to speak fluent Japanese. Must have at least 5 years experience in marine sports sales related activities.

Position: 3 Life Guard
Salary: \$5.05/hr; Flexible Time Schedule

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Must monitor activities in swimming areas to prevent accidents, check for hazardous objects that may cause harm or damage. Caution swimmers regarding unsafe areas. Rescue swimmers in danger or drowning. Must be able to administer CPR and First Aid and perform other related duties as assigned. Must be High school graduate with at least 2 years experience as a life guard. Must possess unexpired Life Guard, CPR and First Aid certificates (American Red Cross).

Interested applicants may submit their RESUME to the Marine Sports Center counter located at the beach side of Hafadai Beach Hotel not later than November 09, 2011.

Tropical Leisure Sports, Inc.
P.O. Box 500157 CK Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel. (670) 233-8574, Fax. (670) 233-0850
Email: tlssaipan@gmail.com

Position: 1 Manager, Marine Service
Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Direct activities of boat services, according to knowledge of maintenance need of small craft and marine safety requirements. Confers with owner or crew of vessel to obtain maintenance history and details concerning condition of craft. Observes and listen to vessel in operation to detect unsafe or malfunctioning equipment and leaks or other flaws in hull and superstructure. Must be able to repair/overhaul boat engine (gasoline or diesel) and other related duties as assigned. Employer Preference: College graduate with at least 5 years experience and must be able to perform the job duties.

Position: 1 Operations Manager
Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Plan, direct or coordinate the operations of company, manage daily operations. Oversee activities directly related to making products or providing services. Manage staff, preparing work schedules and assigning specific duties. Coordinating with other department heads as required and other related duties as assigned to. College graduate with at least 5 years experience, preferably in managing water sports activities.

Position: 1 Houseworker
Salary: \$5.05/hr

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Perform household tasks. Minimum 5 years work experience. High school graduate or equivalent. Must be able to speak and write in English. Ability to speak/understand foreign language is a plus.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Electronic Technician—5 yrs experience
\$ 5.05/hr. Must be certified/licensed air-conditioning technician. Knowledgeable in satellite TV System, CCTV camera, entertainment equipment & other electronics equipment—installation and service repair.
Interested applicant must contact and submit resume to
Langiang L. Barinas dba Ally Electronics,
P.O. Box 503534 CK Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. # 287-9968/email-langiangl@hotmail.com

Job Vacancy Announcement**ALLIED CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION****(1) Accountant**

Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. At least 5 years experience in general and cost accounting. Knowledgeable in PII Accounting Software Inventory and Payroll. Salary: \$9.85-\$13/hr.
Interested qualified US workers can send resume to
jimmy@pticom.com. No phone calls please.

CGI, INC.**Job Vacancy Announcement**

(2) Commercial Cleaner. High School graduate w/ 5yrs of work related experience. Must have own transportation to job sites. Must be able to work flexible days, hours and willing to work on holidays and weekends. Salary: \$5.05.
(2) House Worker. High School graduate w/ 5yrs minimum experience. Must be able to work flexible days, hours and willing to work on holidays and weekends. Salary: \$5.05.
Please submit your resume to tes_cabalica@yahoo.com, no phone calls please.

Job Vacancy Announcement**Store Manager (1)**

2 years experience. Associate's Degree. Can speak Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese and English. Must be Trustworthy.
Jewelry Salesman (1)
2 years experience. Associate's Degree. Can speak Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese and English. Must be Trustworthy.
Please call 233-2368 J&ET Inc.

Milne's Realty Management is looking for:**Farmer: \$ 5.05/hour**

Minimum 5 yrs experience required. Must be able to perform the duty of farmer in accordance with the instructions of the employer.

E-mail resume to maryann_milne@yahoo.com.
No phone calls please.

Job Vacancy Announcement**Operations Manager**

Interested qualified US workers may fax, email, or submit in person, a resume and police clearance.
Any applicant selected for these positions are required to take and pass a drug test screening prior to employment at applicant's cost.
Application deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2011, 4:00 p.m.
PACIFIC DAIKEN CO. LTD. • P.O. Box 501042, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 234-7453 / Fax: 234-7996 • bern.jto@pacificdaiken.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**1-Office /Operations Manager**

Experience in Low Income Home Tax Credit Certification required.
Flexible work hours required.
Send resume to integrity@pticom.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**Administrative Assistant/Collector (1)**

Bachelor's Degree at least 10-15 years experience working w/ a collection agency.

Qualified US worker should apply in person at Reliable Collection Agency, Inc.
ICC Bldg, 2nd flr Suite No. 4 Gualo Rai Saipan.

Se Hoon Corporation**Job Vacancy Announcement**

(1) Manager. 3-10 years experience,
(1) Tour Guide Supervisor. 2-5 years experience,
(6) Tour Guide. 2-5 years experience.

Interested U.S. Citizen applicant must fax resume to 322-3316.

Song & Jang Corporation**Job Vacancy Announcement**

(1) Manager. 3-10 years experience, (1) Tour Guide Supervisor. 3-10 years experience, (6) Tour Guide. 2-5 years experience, (1) Rental Coordinator. 2-3 years experience, (1) Delivery. 2-3 years experience, (7) Masseuse. 2-5 years experience.

Interested U.S. Citizen applicant must fax resume to 322-3316.

Saint Joseph Catholic School**Job Vacancy Announcement****(2) Teacher
(1) Teacher Aid**

Interested applicants may call 433-7527 for more information

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**(1) Maintenance Repairer - \$5.05/hr.**

With 5 years experience, high school graduate or equivalent. Can fix and maintain electrical, mechanical and small engines. Can work flexible hours including holidays and weekends.

Send resume to P.O. Box 8070 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950
TC SERVICES ENTERPRISES

Triple M's Corporation**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT****(2) Cook, (5) Baker,
(4) Beautician, (1) Maintenance
& (1) Certified Therapist**

Minimum 5 yrs work experience, willing to work flexible hours. Submit resume at Fong's Bakery in Chalan Kanoa, Tel no. 235-1071

Vacancy Announcement

(1) Bar Manager. 2-5yrs experience, good communication in English and Japanese and can work with flexible time.

Interested U.S. applicants may drop resume at Ocean's Club Disco and Bar in Garapan between 7pm-9pm or email resume to rei_yamagishi@hotmail.com No phone calls please. WTT (USA), LLC-P.O. Box 5353 CHR

Job Vacancy Announcement**Accountant**

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting with 5 years minimum experience
- Knowledge of complete cycle of accounting, auditing and accepted accounting practices and procedure
- Experience in management of financial systems and budgets, financial reporting, financial data analysis, auditing and taxation
- Knowledge and experience of related computer applications particularly in on line marketing
- Must have strong communication skill and can work on flexible hours without supervision

Please contact (670) 235-1004 from 1:00pm - 5:00pm.

JOCELYN MONES TAITANO Accounting Services and Online Marketing

EWGE Corporation dba Kevin's Video II**Job Vacancy Announcement****(2) Video Sales Clerk**

(3 years experience)

Requirements: To entertain and assist customers in movie selection for rental or purchase; must have a broad background in movies entertainment; prepare reports monthly - for DVD stock inventory. Daily cleanup of premises; good customer relation and sales skills; able to read and write English language; must be computer literate; must be 18 yrs of age or older; must provide police clearance and health clearance; must be of good character and dress neatly; Flexible days off. Salary: \$5.05.

Interested applicants may submit a resume to any of the following branch:
Kagman 256-6988, Dandan 235-6988 or Gualo Rai 235-6986.

Job Vacancy Announcement**GOOD CARE, LLC****(1) Interpreter**

Must have 4 years experience as interpreter. Must be fluent in writing and reading Japanese and English. Knowledgeable about tourism industry preferred. Must have experience in general office work.
Salary: \$6.92-\$7.25/hr.

Interested qualified US workers can send resume to
goodcare@pticom.com

Pacific Basin Insurance Company**Accountant (1) (Insurance)**

- Minimum of 5 years experience
- Bachelor degree in Accounting
- Knowledge in Peachtree Complete Accounting Software

Account Manager (1) (Insurance)

- Minimum of 5 years experience
- Bachelor degree in Accounting
- Knowledge in Peachtree Complete Accounting Software

Computer Analyst (1) (Insurance)

- Minimum of 2 years experience
- Bachelor degree in Computer Science or related field

Insurance Manager (1) (Insurance)

- Minimum of 5 years experience
- Bachelor degree in Commerce or Education
- Knowledge in QuickBooks software

Insurance Underwriter (1)

- Minimum of 2 years experience
- Bachelor degree in Commerce or Education

Interested applicants please apply at Pacific Basin Insurance Co. and email resume to
pacificbasin.ins@gmail.com

An Insurance written test may be required

L&T Group of Companies is inviting qualified applicants to apply for the following positions:

Programmer Analyst

Associate's degree in computer science or computer programming and at least 3 years of work-related experience in a professional Microsoft Windows environment. Strong practical knowledge in relational databases management particularly in midrange RDMS environment such as SQL server. Knowledge in windows-based and web-based programming is a must.

Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should be sent to hrd_l&t@tanholdings.com not later than November 8, 2011

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**Administrative Assistant (1) - \$5.05/hr**

Qualifications: Must be College Degree. Must be proficient in Quickbooks. Must have computer skills and strong general record keeping background and experience. Must be familiar and must understand Federal and CNMI Law. Must have excellent Customer Service. Must have own ride. Can do other duties as directed by the Manager.

Requirements: Must have 5 yrs experience / Police Clearance / Employment Certificate needed

General Maintenance (1) - \$5.05/hr

Qualifications: Maintain laundry facilities, equipment to include welding, carpentry, painting, pipe fittings, plumbing, and electrical. Must have knowledge in fixing boilers, dry cleaning machines and commercial laundry washers. Must know how to put roofing. Must have own ride. Can do other duties as directed by the manager.

Requirements: Minimum of 3 yrs experience / Police Clearance / Employment Certificate needed

Laundry Helper (2) - \$5.05/hr

Qualifications: Must be high school graduate, can work on flexible hours. Can iron clothes 30 pcs a day, must know how to operate steam press, can stand pressing for 8 hrs daily, can work on a hot environment and no health problem such as High Blood Pressure and other sickness.

Requirements: minimum of 3 yrs experience / Police Clearance or any Employment Certificate

Fabriclean of CNMI dba Marianas Cleaners
Contact Person: John Guzman (NO PHONE CALLS)

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
FRIDAY JANUARY 7, 2011

Minor wins doubles in Australia
By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER
Thea Minor ended her campaign in the 2011 Goulburn Valley Junior Championships in Australia on a high note after capturing the doubles crown in the U18 division of the five-day tournament.
Minor teamed up with fellow Pacific Islands team member Amanda Korinthe to secure the doubles event.
Curtis-McDonald
Wednesday

Sablan, other delegates come out swinging as 112th Congress starts
Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, as Sablan's wife, Andrea, holds up a sign during the opening ceremony of the 112th Congress in Washington, D.C.

Alomar, Blyleven elected to Hall of Fame
By Bill Waterson
36 FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2011 32

Garfield
By Jim Davis
OH MAN... WHO MAKES UP ALL THESE RULES?
GARFIELD

Ivin and Hobbes
By Bill Waterson
CALVIN: I'LL SAY! THE WALLS ARE TWO FEET THICK AND WE'VE GOT SO SNOWBALLS IN HERE!
HOBBS: WHO ARE YOU FIGHTING?
CALVIN: THERE'S A SNOW GOON RUNNING AWAY FROM US!
HOBBS: I'LL SAY! THE WALLS ARE TWO FEET THICK AND WE'VE GOT SO SNOWBALLS IN HERE!
CALVIN: I'LL SAY! THE WALLS ARE TWO FEET THICK AND WE'VE GOT SO SNOWBALLS IN HERE!

Adam@Home
OKAY, BUDDY, WE'RE GOING TO A TUMBLING CLASS.
HERE'S YOUR CAR.

CROSSWORD
ACROSS
1. Sh...

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK
By JAYVEE VALLEJERA
jyvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com
EDITOR
WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Weather Channel predicted near-freezing weather for Jan. 5, the day the 112th Congress was to be sworn in. What D.C. got was a blindingly sunny day, with hardly a cloud to mar the cobalt blue sky.
In fact, it was chillier inside the Capitol, when outgoing House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) was preparing to hand over the gavel to Representative John Boehner (R-Ohio).

OPINION METER
This week's poll:
Are you in favor of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's plan to redefine public service and "reduce" government?
Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE
Capized Boat
Days after it capized behind the Tanapag Pavilion, a yacht owned by Mariana Resort & Spa was finally pulled ashore.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
Call 235-NEWS

Carrier Guam, Inc. is looking for
PROJECT ENGINEER

Job Description:

- Team leader for Carrier Saipan branch operations.
- Responsible in making decisiond regarding normal or routine transactions under the guidance and approval of the Manager in accordance with Carrier Corporation policies and procedures.
- Reports to the Branch Manager on carrier Saipan operations.
- Directs support to off-shore dealer's accounts; attends to HVAC system inquiries; sales or technical issues, accessories and parts from customers Offshore (Japan, and Diego Garcia; prepares estimates and quotations).
- Attends to HVAC inquiries in the CNMI including FAS Marshalls Islands, Palau.
- Does other related jobs as required by the Manager.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree preferably in Mechanical Engineering.
- Knowledge and background of HVAC Systems.
- Minimum of 3-5 years experience in installation, supervision and design of HVAC Systtms and Equipment.
- Knowledgeable in Computer HVAC Builder Programs.
- Knowledge or background in SAP applications.

REFRIGERATION & AIR CON TECHNICIAN

Job Description

- Performs services and Preventive Maintenance on industrial,commercial and residential air conditioning & refrigeration system including AC units with Building Management System (BMS), AC units with Variable Volume and Temperature(VVT).
- Performs troubleshooting and repair of various types of airconditioning and refrigeration systems.
- Performs installation, start-up, testing and commissioning of various Air Conditioning equipments.
- Prepares estimate & quotation for the supply of Residential and Light Commercial Airconditioning.
- Prepares estimate and quotation for repair works, including equipment and/or parts replacement.
- Coordinates with customers to meet their preliminary requiremets on installation of equipment.

Qualifications:

- Must have EPA Universal license.
- Preferably knowledgeable in HVAC troubleshooting and repairs, installation, commissioning and preventive maintenance, with minimum work experience of 3-5 years or related equivalent.
- Preferably with experience in the start-up and commissioning of Chillers.
- Knowledgeable in MS Word and MS excel.
- Must be a graduate of 2-year vocational course on Refrigeration and Airconditioning or its equivalent.

ACCOUNTANT

Job Description:

Finance & Accounting, Controls & Compliance:

- Responsible for the daily accounting, reporting, finance and tax and regulatory compliance of the branch.
- Provides financial information and reports of the branch as required by management.
- Maintains company's ledgers; reconcile various GL account analysis and ensure accurate recording of transactions.
- Does audit function of petty cash fund; verifies the accuracy of the charges and reports to Guam office.
- Performs annual physical inventory count of the branch.
- Prepares payment vouchers for branch and other related disbursement activities.
- Maintain records of fixed assets including any acquisition, deletions.
- Prepare journal vouchers for as required and other adjustments as may deem necessary.
- Ensures compliance of accounting controls and procedures in compliance with UTC/ Carrier Finance policies and procedures.
- Ensures compliance of CNMI rules and regulations including business tax returns, license, occupancy and zoning and other related regulatory requirements.
- Performs other accounting functions as may deem necessary.

Credit /Collections:

- Performs as credit controller of the branch.
- Follow up customer payments; reviews aging report and coordinate with customers in the expeditious settlement of their account.
- Send statement of accounts and resolve any outstanding amount of customers.
- Prepares receiving vouchers for all customer payments received for the period; forward documents to Guam for booking.
- Perform annual credit review of all Saipan customers.

Sales Support:

- Prepares weekly and monthly sales report for Forecast Package.
- Monitor daily sales report; verifies the postings of correct codes; ensure prompt reporting of any adjustments.
- Verifies all cash sales from store and service departments.
- Process goods received notes for all incoming shipments; indent and regular stocks including the related costs.
- Process credit notes for any adjustments, price discrepancy returns and other related transactions as required.
- Prepares sales ledger adjustments to reconcile with the sales ledger account.

Administrative Support:

- Responsible in reporting any IT issues and concerns at branch.
- Promotes and strengthens ACE program of the branch.
- Ensures compliance of EH & S issues in accordance with UTC Safely Rules and Policies.
- Performs as Human Resource Coordinator and administrative officer of the branch.

Qualifications:

- Four (4) year Bachelor Degree in Accounting /college diploma or its equivalent.
- At least 3-5 years experience in HVAC industry.
- Knowledge in accounting, auditing and regulatory compliance.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, communication skills and interaction with internal and external customers.
- Ability to manage multiple tasks and meet deadlines in accounting closing period.
- Knowledge of Opera II software and other related accounting software.
- Must have experience in letter of credit.

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Job Description:

- Prepares quotations on equipment & parts.
- Coordinates work schedules for service and projects jobs.
- Prepares electronic time ticket of technician.
- Prepares invoices for jobs < \$500.00.
- Prepares jobcosting analysis for job<\$500.00
- Prepares Purchase Orders.
- Maintains PO Log Tracking and forwards to Guam Office.
- Reconciles vendor accounts.
- Receives and accepts service calls.
- Prepares Pro-forma Invoice for project and secures payment.
- Prepares Sales Order for RLC, Project and when ordering parts for store.
- Coordinates with Guam(Store) regarding request for transshipment of parts and equipment.
- Corrdinates with off-island customers on payment, order status and other after-sales services.
- Prepares monthly Backlog reports.
- Provides support in tracking orders and provide status to team members.
- Updates status of customers orders and job status.
- In-charge of airline booking, hotel and accomodation booking for personnel on official trips
- Input time in/ time out on electronic file and submit to Guam for approvals.
- Collates all necessary shipping documents of shipments then submit to Accounting for GRN
- Issues OR and prepares STR.
- Issues Store Requisition when store personnel is not available.
- Assists store as needed.
- Assists Project Sales in other needed documents.
- Inquire parts availability from Guam store, ARCD & vendors.
- Coordinates with forwarders in all shipping related matters.

Qualifications:

- Minimum of 3 - 5 years of administrative duties and related experience.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications ,Word, Excel and Power Point .
- Preferably college graduate or its equivalent educational degree.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, communication skills, phone skills/telephone manners.
- Ability to prioritize project, work relatively independently, manage multiple tasks and meet deadlines.
- Knowledge in Pegasus Opera II System, SAP & HVAC.
- Ability to be flexible, proactive and disciplined required.
- Ability to respond to customer inquiries and needs.
- Must have experience in Letters of Credit.

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Submit Application with Resume, Photo ID and Police/Court Clearance no later than November 11, 2011.

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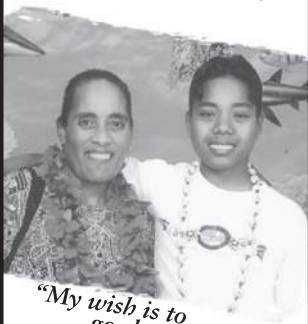
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NBA offers players up to 51 percent of revenue



NEW YORK (AP)—NBA players have an offer that could get them up to 51 percent of basketball-related income.

They rejected it Saturday, and if they don't take it by the close of business Wednesday, they'll get a proposal that would guarantee them just 47 percent and call for a flex salary cap.

While refusing to characterize his proposal as an ultimatum, Commissioner David Stern said his owners are ready to make a deal.

"We want to allow the union enough time to consider our most recent proposal, and we are hopeful that they will accept," he said.

As for the Wednesday deadline, he added that it "doesn't aid the negotiating process to just leave it hanging out there."

Union president Derek Fisher said players proposed a deal with a fair system at around 51 percent for themselves. He characterized the NBA offer as "a system that is not a fair system" and a revenue split that was really 50 percent.

"We made the moves that we needed to make to get this deal done on the economics," he said.

Fisher said the NBPA will be in constant communication with players through Wednesday but there's not enough of an offer to merit calling a vote.

"Today was another sad day for our fans, for arena workers, our parking lot attendants, our vendors. Very frustrating, sad day," Fisher added. "We, for sure, unequivocally, made good faith efforts to try to get this deal done tonight. And we're at a loss for why we could not close it out."

Though Stern refused to say the offer was an ultimatum, that's exactly how it appeared to Fisher: "That's the end of the road for them. There is no more negotiating."

Players and owners met with federal mediator George Cohen



Oklahoma City Thunder owner Clay Bennett, left, and Miami Heat owner Micky Arison arrive at a midtown hotel where NBA labor talks are scheduled to resume, Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011, in New York.

for more than eight hours, and Stern said Cohen offered six "what if?" recommendations relating to the BRI split and the salary cap system.

Stern said owners accepted the first five and would put them in writing in a formal proposal to the players, hopefully Sunday. But it wasn't acceptable Saturday, with Stern saying players' attorney Jeffrey Kessler rejected it.

"I think it's fair to say that speaking on behalf of the union, Mr. Kessler rejected the mediators' recommendations and our proposal," Stern said. "But hope springs eternal and we would love to see the union accept the proposal that is now on the table."

Though insistent on no more than a 50-50 split, owners will offer the players a band that would allow them to receive

between 49 percent and 51 percent.

Fisher was not impressed. "There'd be no way in the world we'd ever get to 51 percent, so it's not a band," he said.

Players have been seeking to receive 52.5 percent of revenues after they were guaranteed 57 percent in the old collective bargaining agreement.

After "frank and open dialogue" at an owners meeting earlier Saturday, Stern said he believes owners would support this deal.

He would not speculate as to the odds on whether players will take the deal.

"I'm not going to make percentage guesses or anything like that. We want our players to play. We'd like to have a season," Stern said. "These are the terms upon which we're prepared to gear up and get in as

many games as possible."

Owners, however, are determined to reshape the league by creating a system like the NFL or NHL, where spending is capped and small-market teams truly can compete with the big boys. But reforming the NHL's financial structure wiped out the entire 2004-05 season. And the NFL is making money, not losing it.

Last month Spurs owner Peter Holt was asked if owners might be willing to sit out a year to get the changes they crave. He said owners don't want to lose the season but that there are certain things they must have in a new deal.

Union executive director Billy Hunter has long believed it was very possible that this season would be lost. He started to believe two or three years ago that owners intended

to lock out the players so they could force through the changes they wanted.

Fisher echoed that early Sunday morning.

"We anticipated and expected

to be here, that the NBA and their teams intended to lock us out for as long as they needed to in order to get what they wanted," he said. "Our players are prepared. We're aware."

Hawks will not be sold to Alex Meruelo

ATLANTA (AP)—The Atlanta Hawks will not be sold to California developer and pizza chain owner Alex Meruelo.

In fact, the NBA team is no longer on the market.

The Hawks' ownership group, headed by Bruce Levenson and Michael Gearon Jr., said Friday that the agreement for Meruelo to buy the team had been mutually terminated by both sides. Just last week, there were reports the NBA was delaying approval of sale because of concerns about Meruelo's finances, though he insisted he had enough money to purchase the team and run it in a first-class manner.

Meruelo, the son of Cuban immigrants, was poised to become the NBA's first Hispanic team owner and acquire operating rights to Philips Arena, with Levenson and Gearon remaining in a minority role.

Instead, the group known as Atlanta Spirit will remain in charge of the team it has owned since 2004, when it acquired the Hawks and the NHL Thrashers from Time Warner. The group stepped in after a proposed deal with Dallas businessman David McDavid fell through.

"The Atlanta Hawks are no longer for sale," Levenson said in a statement issued by the Hawks. "We're excited to remain as owners of the Hawks and are committed to building on our string of four straight playoff appearances."

The owners came under heavy criticism in Atlanta after they quickly worked out a deal to sell the Thrashers to a group in Winnipeg for a reported \$170 million. The team moved to the Canadian city and is now known as the Jets.

The Hawks said there would be no additional comment on why the purchase agreement announced in August had been terminated, citing a confidentiality clause. Neither Levenson nor Gearon immediately responded to e-mails.

Meruelo issued a statement indicating that the ongoing labor dispute between the owners and the players, which delayed this week's scheduled start of the regular season, helped scuttle the deal.

"I want to thank the Atlanta community who welcomed me with open arms. I am humbled and blessed by their warmth and hospitality," Meruelo said. "Basketball is my passion, but professional basketball is a business. Although all parties negotiated in good faith, we were not able to reach a mutually satisfactory agreement

on some key issues given the current uncertainty surrounding the labor issue. As a result, we mutually decided to terminate the deal effective immediately."

Meruelo hasn't given up on becoming the NBA's first Hispanic owner. But it won't be with the Hawks.

"I have great respect for the owners of the Hawks and the league and remain committed to fulfilling my dream of owning an NBA team," he said in the statement. "I look forward to that opportunity in the future."

At a news conference in early August, shortly after the deal was announced, an emotional Meruelo put on a red Hawks cap and fought back tears as he talked about the significance of becoming the NBA's first Hispanic team owner.

"It means a lot," the 48-year-old said. "Me being Hispanic, being first is really touching. I hope to do the right thing. I just want to make sure I make them proud."

Growing up, he wanted to be a player.

"I wasn't quite fast enough, tall enough or quick enough, so those dreams didn't quite get me that far," Meruelo said. "But those dreams brought me the burning desire to be involved in the NBA. It's something I've always wanted my entire life to somehow be a part of the NBA."

Meruelo never considered buying the Thrashers before they moved to Winnipeg, and he acknowledged that purchasing an NBA team during the lockout was a concern.

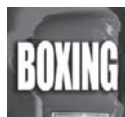
"You're always hesitant, right?" Meruelo said. "It's the unknown that makes you uncomfortable, but at the same time I just see a tremendous amount of opportunity and growth in this sport."

He heads the Meruelo Group, a Downey, Calif.-based investment firm. The firm recently acquired the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nev., for a reported \$42.45 million.

Meruelo also founded La Pizza Loca, which has over 50 franchised and company-owned restaurants in Southern California, catering to the Latino community, according to the company website.

"It's really a dual thing, the opportunity and the love of the sport that brought me so close to this," he said. "I would say I'm a very hands-on individual. I'm very tied in to every business I'm involved with. I will do no different here."

Ex-heavyweight champ Joe Frazier has liver cancer



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Former heavyweight champion Joe Frazier has liver cancer and is under hospice care.

The 67-year-old boxer was diagnosed four or five weeks ago, Frazier's personal and business manager said Saturday. Leslie Wolff told The Associated Press that doctors have not yet told Frazier how long he has to live.

"We have medical experts looking into the all the options that are out there," Wolff said. "There are very few. But that doesn't mean we're going to stop looking."

Wolff, who has been Frazier's manager for seven years, said the boxer had been in out and out of the hospital since early October and receiving hospice

treatment the last week.

"We appreciate every prayer we can get," Wolff said. "I've got everybody praying for him. We'll just keep our fingers crossed and hope for a miracle."

Frazier's illness was first reported by the New York Post, citing an unidentified source.

Frazier was the first man to beat Muhammad Ali, knocking him down and taking a decision in the so-called Fight of the Century in 1971. He would go on to lose two more fights to Ali, including the epic "Thrilla in Manila" bout.

Frazier was bitter for many years about the way Ali treated him then. More recently, he said he had forgiven Ali for repeatedly taunting him.

Smokin' Joe was a small yet ferocious fighter who smothered his opponents with punch-

es, including a devastating left hook he used to end many of his fights early. It was the left hook that dropped Ali in the 15th round of their "Fight of the Century" at Madison Square Garden in 1971 to seal a win in a bout where each fighter earned an unheard of \$2.5 million.

While that fight is celebrated in boxing lore, Ali and Frazier put on an even better show in their third fight, held in a sweltering arena in Manila as part of Ali's world tour of fights in 1975. Nearly blinded by Ali's punches, Frazier still wanted to go out for the 15th round of the fight but was held back by trainer Eddie Futch in a bout Ali would later say was the closest thing to death he could imagine.

Frazier won the heavyweight title in 1970 by stopping Jimmy

Ellis in the fifth round of their fight at Madison Square Garden. Frazier defended it successfully four times before George Foreman knocked him down six times in the first two rounds to take the title from him in 1973.

Frazier would never be heavyweight champion again.

In recent years, Frazier had been doing regular autograph appearances, including one in Las Vegas the weekend of a Floyd Mayweather Jr. fight in September.

"I was very sad to hear the news. It's a tragedy," leading British promoter Frank Warren said. "He's one of the greatest fighters of his generation and one of the best heavyweights in history. It's a sad thing and I know everyone in boxing will be wishing him well."

Jacobson leads by 2 shots in final WGC at Shanghai



SHANGHAI

(AP)—Starting the third round with the lead, Fredrik Jacobson kept his mistakes to a minimum, knocked in long birdie putts on consecutive holes and wound up with a 5-under 67 and a two-shot lead. It still wasn't enough to shake a world-class leaderboard at the HSBC Champions.

The final World Golf Championship of the year is living up to its billing.

"Everyone is going to be pumped up because it's a great leaderboard going into the final round," Louis Oosthuizen said. "I think everyone wants that title, so you are going to see some good golf."

It already has been a treat in many ways over three rounds at Sheshan International.

Jacobson broke by two shots the 54-hole tournament record and was at 16-under 200 as he tries to win for the second time this year. As soft as it has been, this is no time to play conservatively.

Two shots behind was Oosthuizen, a British Open champion at St. Andrews, who birdied his last hole for a 68.

Joining them in the final group is Adam Scott, a former winner of The Players Championship, Tour Championship and a World Golf Championship. Despite growing controversy of his caddie Steve Williams' racial slur about Tiger Woods at a private party, Scott went on a birdie-birdie-eagle finish to salvage a 69 and was only three behind.

"A 69 didn't distract me too badly in the end today," Scott said.

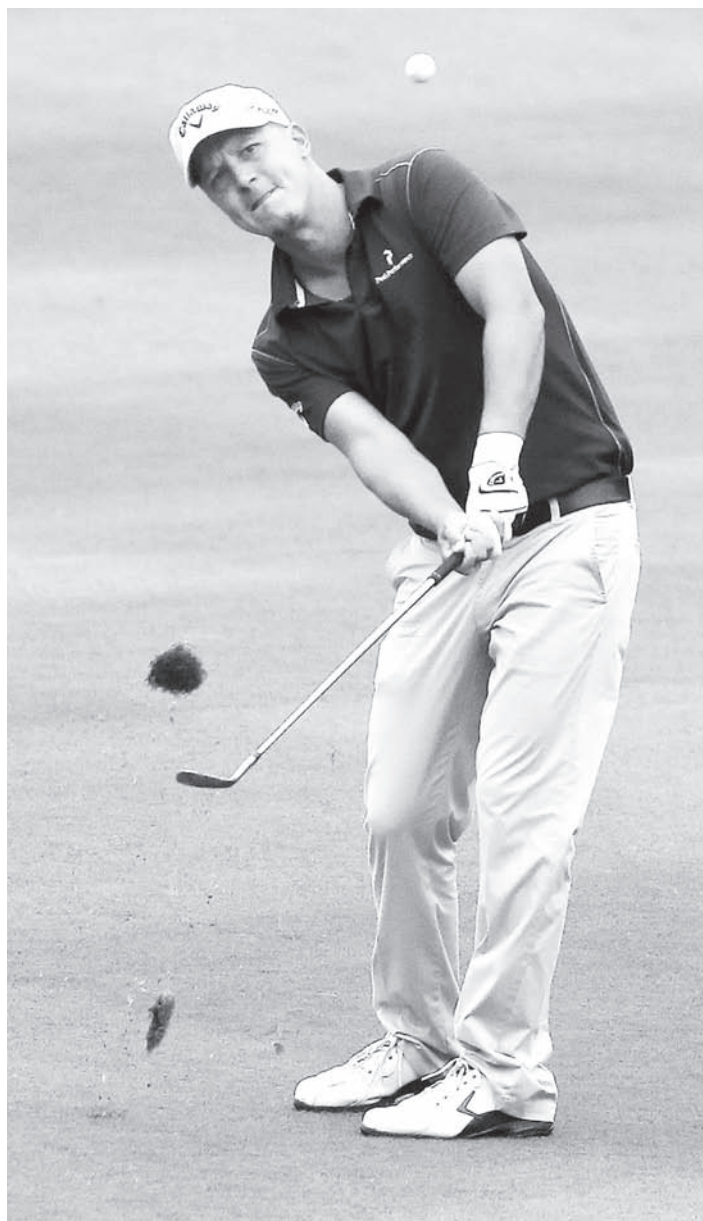
Right behind them were U.S. Open champion Rory McIlroy (65) and former world No. 1 Lee Westwood (67) at 12-under 204, with former U.S. Open champion Graeme McDowell (67) and former PGA champion Martin Kaymer (68) another shot back.

No other WGC this year has had so many stars on the leaderboard going into the last day.

The unknown in all this is Jacobson. His lone PGA Tour win came this year at the Travelers Championship. Kaymer knew little about that win, and not much more about the Swede, when he raised questions about how Jacobson would stand up to the Sunday pressure.

"If I play my game, maybe I can put a little pressure on him and make it tougher for him," Kaymer said.

Luke Donald can probably breathe a little easier. His wife is expecting their second child, keeping him home from Shanghai. His hopes of winning PGA Tour player of the year depended largely on whether PGA champion Keegan Bradley could add a WGC to his amazing year. Bradley, however, had to settle for a 72 and was seven shots behind.



Fredrik Jacobson of Sweden watches his shot on the 8th fairway during the third round of the HSBC Champions golf tournament in Shanghai, China Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011. Jacobson finished the third day with 16 under.

The pressure now shifts to Jacobson.

He looked as though he would have a comfortable margin when he knocked in a 30-foot birdie putt on the 13th, then picked up another bonus with a 40-foot birdie putt on the par-5 14th. Jacobson had to settle for four pars coming, while Oosthuizen and Scott made a late run to at least close the gap.

"It feels a lot better than playing from behind the rest of the guys because when you're behind you know you have to shoot a low number," Jacobson said. "Leading, I've still got to shoot a good score, but they will have to catch me. I sometimes feel a little bit stressed if I start off a few shots behind."

Oosthuizen started showing some form toward the end of the season, and with more confidence in his putting on such good greens, is close enough to think about winning.

Scott remains the curious one for so many reasons.

He is trying to join Woods and Phil Mickelson as the only player to win multiple World Golf Championships in the same season, and this has a few similarities to his win at Firestone—mostly his caddie. Scott shared—if not lost—some of the spotlight to Williams that day when his caddie gave a TV interview on the 18th green and called it the "best win of my life."

Woods' former caddies rips him with racial comment

SHANGHAI (AP)—Already one of the most festive evenings in golf, the annual Caddies Awards roast was buzzing with talk that Tiger Woods' former caddie might be getting a prize.

One award was called "Celebration of the Year." Everyone knew who would get it and why.

The surprise was how Steve Williams ripped into his old boss with a racial slur that caused even more commotion involving the jilted caddie and golf's biggest name.

"He's a character within the game of golf, and whatever bitterness that exists between him and Tiger should be in the past by now," said Graeme McDowell, one of several players at the party. "It's unfortunate that it's going to rear its head again."

Williams, still angered over getting fired by Woods this summer, was working for Adam Scott when he won the Bridgestone Invitational. That tournament also was the first time Woods played since splitting with his caddie. An emotionally charged Williams gave a TV interview on the 18th green and called it "the best win of my life," even though he had been on the bag for 13 majors with Woods.

On Friday night, the host called Williams to the stage to collect his award and asked him to explain his enthusi-

asm. Williams, with a smirk on his face, leaned toward the microphone and said, "It was my aim to shove it right up that black a-----."

On a night filled with banter and off-color remarks, this one was a show-stopper. Heads turned, eyes widened and jaws dropped amid a mixture of shock and laughter.

Williams later issued a statement apologizing to Woods. That was good enough for Scott, who said he had no plans to fire his caddie.

"I think everything in that room last night was all in good spirits and for a bit of fun," Scott said after his third round Saturday at the HSBC Champions. "And I think it probably got taken out of that room in the wrong context."

Even as players and caddies spilled into the bar, they couldn't stop talking about it—some because of the racial overtones, some because of how Williams so openly showed his disdain for Woods.

The ground rules for the roast is that everything is off the record, yet this was bound to get out.

A group of British reporters returning from a night out in Shanghai were at the hotel bar when at least one caddie told them what was said. Williams was stunned the next morning

to learn that his comments had been published.

"Why would they do that?" he said. "The whole thing was meant to be fun."

He shook his head and walked away without wanting to say more. Hours later, Williams posted a comment on his website.

"I apologize for comments I made last night at the Annual Caddy Awards dinner in Shanghai," it said. "Players and caddies look forward to this evening all year, and the spirit is always joking and fun. I now realize how my comments could be construed as racist. However, I assure you that was not my intent. I sincerely apologize to Tiger and anyone else I've offended."

Woods was in Australia, though it didn't take long for the comments to get back to him.

"I was with Tiger last night when he heard the news," agent Mark Steinberg said. "We got multiple calls from people who sounded like they were leaving the caddie party. Tiger obviously wasn't there. He doesn't know exactly what was said. But if multiple reports—which all seem to be accurate—are true, then it's sad it's come down to this."

"It's a regrettable comment, and there's really nothing that Tiger can do or say. He's just going to move on."

Cardinals interview Matheny for manager



ST. LOUIS

(AP)—Former St. Louis catcher Mike Matheny is the third person to interview for the Cardinals' managerial opening since Tony La Russa retired following the team's World Series championship.

A person with knowledge of the search told The Associated Press of Matheny's interview. The person spoke Friday on condition of anonymity because the team hasn't publicly discussed the search.

All three candidates have organizational ties. White Sox third base coach Joe McEwing played for the Cardinals, and Chris Maloney has managed their Triple-A Memphis affiliate the last five years.

Longtime Cardinals third base coach Jose Oquendo also is believed to be on the list of candidates.

No more interviews were planned until Tuesday. The Cardinals hope to find a successor to La Russa, who resigned on Monday, in the next few weeks.

The Cardinals received permission from the Phillies to interview Ryne Sandberg and ex-Red Sox manager Terry Francona is expected to get a close look. Sandberg managed the Phillies' Triple-A team last season and was ruled out earlier this week for the Cubs' opening. The 40-year-old Matheny is a minor league instructor with the Cardinals with no managing experience. He played for St. Louis from 2000-04 and won three Gold Gloves. He won another with San Francisco.

Matheny's career blossomed after he signed a one-year free-agent deal to be the backup catcher in St. Louis. A career .239 hitter, Matheny did enough defensively to earn a starting job.

Meanwhile, Jim Thome wants his second stint in Philadelphia to come with the World Series title he missed the first time around.

Thome agreed to a \$1.25 million, one-year contract with the Phillies on Saturday, returning to the franchise for a second time.

The 41-year-old Thome hit .256 with 15 home runs and 50 RBI in a combined 93 games with the Minnesota Twins and Cleveland Indians last season. He batted .350 with runners in scoring position and .424 over his final 11 games of the season.

"Every player sees the way the Phillies have done things," Thome said. "They've set the bar very, very high."

Thome played for Philadelphia from 2003-05 and has remained close with Phillies manager Charlie Manuel, his hitting coach for several years in Cleveland.

"Everyone knows my rela-

tionship with Jimmy," Manuel said. "But he's not here because of that. He's here to contribute to our team in a positive way, both on and off the field."

Thome hit .260 with 96 home runs and 266 RBIs in his first stint with the Phillies.

"I think the Phillies have set the bar very high in baseball," Thome said. "This is as good a place in baseball right now to be in."

Thome has a .277 career average with 604 homers and 1,674 RBIs. He is one of just eight players to hit more than 600 homers.

Thome was once considered the Phillies' franchise player when he signed as a free agent in the winter of 2002.

With his down-home charm and mammoth homers, Thome was an instant hit in Philadelphia. He led the NL in homers in 2003 with 47 and hit 42 the next season. In the final game at Veterans Stadium in 2003, Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt raised Thome's hand at home plate in a symbolic passing of the torch.

On June 14, 2004, Thome hit career homer No. 400 in Philadelphia.

Back and elbow injuries limited him to 59 games in 2005, when he slumped to .207 with seven homers and 30 RBIs in 193 at-bats. Ryan Howard's emergence made it easier to consider moving Thome.

Howard is recovering from surgery on his left Achilles. Thome, expected to add some left-handed pop off the bench, could be called on to play first base. Thome said he'll be preparing this offseason. Aside from a symbolic appearance at third base for the Indians in his finale at Progressive Field this season, Thome has not played defensively since 2007.

Thome had been taking his career year by year. When Amaro and the Phillies called early in the free agency period, Thome jumped at the reunion.

"When a team like the Phillies called, that's a great opportunity to be in," he said. "There was history here. I think to me, it was a good decision."

Thome went to the World Series in 1995 and 1997 but the Indians came up short both times. He left after the 2002 season and signed a six-year, \$85 million deal with the Phillies. Thome helped usher in the Phillies' move to Citizens Bank Park in 2004 and their rise to NL East contenders.

He was traded before the Phillies started their current run of five straight NL East titles. The Phillies won the World Series in 2008 and were eliminated this season by eventual champion St. Louis in the NL division series.

Weekend Sports

School sports in spotlight

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Students reigned in schools competitions last week.

In the 2011-2012 Coalition of Private School Sports Association Volleyball League, four teams made it to the playoff round of the junior varsity division with Grace Christian Academy eventually winning the JV championship.

The Eagles advanced to the finals after beating Saipan International School in the semis in three sets. In the other semis pairing, Whispering Palms downed Marianas Baptist Academy. In the one-game finals, GCA swept Whispering Palms to reclaim the championship it last won during the 2009-2010 season against Mt. Carmel School.

In the 2011-2012 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Basketball League at the MHS Gymna-



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Members of the JV All-Conference Team pose with their trophies during the awards ceremony for the 2011-2012 Coalition of Private School Sports Association Volleyball League at the Mt. Carmel Gymnasium last Thursday.



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Two Kagman Elementary School strikers chase the ball during their game against William S. Reyes Elementary School in the opening of the 2012 NMIFA Interscholastic U12 League last Friday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

sium, the MHS Lady Dolphins remained undefeated in the varsity division and hold the lead with their 5-0 record.

Saipan Southern High School is in third place with a 3-2 slate, followed by Kagman High School and SIS, which own similar 1-3 slates.

In the junior varsity, Southern has a 3-1 record for the top spot, while MHS and Kagman hold 2-1 and 0-3 marks, respectively.

In the 2011-2012 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Boys Volleyball League, GCA is unbeaten in 11 games and a win away from sweeping the regu-

lar season. SIS is in second place with a 10-2 card, while Kagman and MHS QT's are tied for third with identical 6-5 slates.

Over at the Hopwood Junior High School Field, the 2012 NMIFA Interscholastic U12 League kicked off with William S. Reyes Elementary School beating Kagman Elementary School both in the boys and girls division games. Oleai also prevailed over Koblerville in the boys division, while the girls match resulted in a 2-2 draw.

Also opening last week was the GBL IT&E Cup with Konflikt and the Runnin' Rebels winning their debuts.

Other on-going competitions on Saipan continued with NMIFA holding the regular season games in the youth and men's fall leagues and Shirley's caging having its elimination-round matches.

OL'ACES

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T.J. Sablan, who pinched run for Jake Sablan, to second and Diego Camacho to first.

Then with runners on first and second, Frankie Camacho stepped up to the plate and swung on Cabrera's first pitch. The Ol'Aces left fielder hit his target with the ball landing at deep center field. Two Titanium outfielders chased the ball, while T.J. Sablan sprinted and scored the winning run in style, sliding to home plate

first before catcher Palmerson Monkeya received the ball from center field.

The lone championship match was Titanium's second game of the day, as it also played in the last semis tiff three hours earlier and won over the Fielders 2, 10-7. The Ol'Aces took the first finals berth after also downing Fielders in the first semis pairing, 14-2.

At the start of the finals, Titanium picked up where it left off, scoring two early runs at the top of the first inning. Lead off batter Ton Guerrero singled, stole bases, and reached home

off Jerald Camacho's sacrifice fly. Third batter Brian Camacho made Titanium's other run in the first inning off a wild pitch from A.J. Lizama.

Titanium went on to keep the lead after three and a half innings before the Ol'Aces finally broke into the scoreboard at the bottom of the fourth. Harry Nakamura and Keoni Lizama made it home for the Ol'Aces off Roco Reyes'double to tie the match.

Both teams failed to score in the fifth inning to keep the game even. Then at the top of the sixth inning, Titanium had a big

chance of breaking the deadlock when it loaded the bases, but could not complete the plays. Joseph Atalig was the sixth batter and was called for a full count with two outs. Nakamura, who relieved Lizama in the third inning, delivered another pitch and was awarded his third strike for the third out.

Meanwhile, a perpetual trophy was given to the Ol'Aces during a brief ceremony after the game. The Sen. Luis P. Crisostimo-sponsored Ol'Aces are managed by Tony Flores and coached by Walter Macaranas.

MOBIL

From Page 28

heated up early, as they combined for 14 in FGC's 18-10 lead. Bernardo added six more markers in the second quarter to help maintain the driver's seat.

First Game

FGC 72 - Bernardo 22, Gamboa 17, Pagarao 9, Yabut 9, Babauta 6, Santos 3, Lerio 3, Basila 2.

Andhok's 59 - Mateo 15, Umali 11, Wesley 9, Tenorio 5,

Artates 4, Dayrit 4, Montano 4, Johannes 2, Lauron 2, Park 1.

Scoring by quarters: 18-10, 34-28, 57-40, 72-59.

Second Game

Mobil 82 - Estolas 17, Maratita 16, De Guzman 12, P. Lizama 12, Demapan 8, Factor 8, Fernando 8, Moises 1.

Proa 81 - Barcinas 17, A. Rabauliman 16, Norita 11, J. Lizama 10, Johannes 9, Chariton 5, Mendiola 5, J. Sablan 5, Libuw 2, Ogumoro 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-16, 44-36, 60-58, 82-81.

GRILLIN'

From Page 28

managed to find a breathing room, taking a 45-37 halftime lead. Lerio, who canned two triples in the opening canto, added two more shots from downtown in the second frame, while Pagarao converted one long shot and had nine markers. PIC failed to keep pace with Grillin' in the second canto, as it had limited options on offense with only JR Mina nailing more than one field goal for the defending champion.

Grillin' made it a double-digit lead in the third period, as Leo Galarse found his

rhythm at the start of the second half, nailing 10 points after a four-point production in the first half. Lerio and Pagarao backed up Galarse as they combined for 12 markers in the third.

Galarse slowed down in the fourth, but not Lerio and Pagarao, who delivered the needed baskets for Grillin's big win.

PSS 104, Wushin 58

The curtain-raiser last Saturday had a lopsided result with PSS/McGraw-Hill pounding Wushin for its third win in four games.

PSS moved up to solo second place, two victories behind the leaders, while Wushin fell to a 2-3 slate.

Dave Sablan had a field day on offense, as he scored 44 points. Maverick Itibus and Walter Mendez chipped in 19 and 15, respectively.

PSS broke the game wide open in the third quarter where it outscored Wushin, 31-12. Wushin faced a manageable deficit at the break, 32-44, before PSS turned on the heat in the third behind the 13 points of Sablan, who outgunned the entire crew of the opposing team.

Then in the fourth quarter, PSS went on to record the biggest winning margin this season, as it held Wushin to 14 points.

First Game

PSS/McGraw-Hill 104 - Sa-

blan 44, Itibus 19, Mendez 15, Buniag 6, Cabrera 6, Palacios 4, Fital 2, Manibusan 2.

Wushin 58 - Tabora 20, Tobias 11, Villasan 10, O. Ebuen 6, Farinas 4, Tibayan 4, De Jesus 3.

Scoring by quarters: 20-14, 44-32, 73-44, 104-58.

Second Game

Grillin' 91 - Pagarao 32, Lerio 31, Galarse 17, Rotap 4, Herrera 4, Hernandez 2, G. Loste 1.

PIC/NVM 84 - JR. Mina 15, Yabut 14, Rasa 13, Tamayo 12, Ortiz 8, Je. Mina 8, Diaz 8, Fernando 6.

Scoring by quarters: 22-22, 45-37, 69-59, 91-84.

STRONG

From Page 28

High School's Thea Minor stole second place at 22:58, just one second ahead of MHS' Reylynn Sapong (22:59). The girls U18 field drew 11 runners.

In the girls U14 division, which had runners doing two laps of the course, Hopwood's Mikayla Lopez bested her eight schoolmates after timing in at 12:58. Zarinae Sapong and Rumina Litulumar placed second

and third with times of 17:00 and 17:32, respectively.

Kevin Jack DeLeon Guerrero also of Hopwood topped the boys U14 field after clocking in at 11:13. Saipan Community School's Dylan Ackerman and Kai Lee completed the Top 3 after recording 12:31 and 12:38, respectively.

Another Hopwood student, Djaymarch Ong, took the top spot in the boys U12, finishing ahead of SCS' Elnathan Wong and Carl Dela Cruz. Ong broke the tape at 11:20,

Wong at 12:23, and Dela Cruz at 13:00. Nine runners joined the U12 race, which also had participants doing two laps of the course.

In the girls U12, SCS' Tammy Ackerman bested the field of five with an impressive time of 12:27. Seung Yeon Han and Stephanie Lee also of SCS finished second and third with times of 15:33 and 16:34.

Haruya Eda ruled the boys U10 race that had runners doing only one lap of the course. Eda clocked in at 6:18, beating

teammates Ken Song (6:29) and John Paul Sablan (7:37). Six runners made up the field.

Garapan Elementary School's Joshalynd D. Flores was the lone girls U10 competitor and finished the same course in 8:19. In the U8 division, SCS' Jason Sablan and John Hong had a head-to-head with the former winning the duel after posting 06:29 against the latter's 07:19.

Meanwhile, NMA will be holding the third series of the cross-country race on Nov.19 at the American Memorial Park.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES		
HSBC CHAMPIONS SCORES		
SHANGHAI (AP) — Scores Saturday from the HSBC Champions, a \$7 million World Golf Championship at the par-72, 7,266-yard Sheshan International Golf Club:		
THIRD ROUND		
Fredrik Jacobson	67-66-67	—200
Louis Oosthuizen	71-63-68	—202
Adam Scott	69-65-69	—203
Rory McIlroy	70-69-65	—204
Lee Westwood	69-68-67	—204
Graeme McDowell	69-69-67	—205
Martin Kaymer	69-68-68	—205
Xin-jun Zhang	74-68-64	—206
Paul Casey	70-66-70	—206
Bo Van Pelt	67-69-70	—206
Jhonattan Vegas	69-73-65	—207
Ian Poulter	70-68-69	—207
Hunter Mahan	71-67-69	—207
Keegan Bradley	65-70-72	—207
Miguel Jimenez	72-68-68	—208
Jbe' Kruger	70-70-68	—208
Charl Schwartzel	70-69-69	—208
Justin Rose	68-70-70	—208
Simon Dyson	69-69-70	—208
Yuta Ikeda	70-71-68	—209
Pablo Larrazabal	70-69-70	—209
Jonathan Byrd	71-68-70	—209
Harrison Frazar	70-75-64	—209
Thongchai Jaidee	68-69-72	—209
John Senden	72-68-70	—210
Anders Hansen	71-69-70	—210
Alvaro Quiros	72-67-71	—210
K.J. Choi	68-70-72	—210
Aaron Baddeley	69-68-73	—210
Nicolas Colsaerts	74-69-68	—211
Bill Haas	74-69-68	—211
Ashun Wu	72-69-70	—211
Robert Rock	70-70-71	—211
Francesco Molinari	70-70-71	—211
Rory Sabbatini	69-71-71	—211
Bobby Gates	75-68-69	—212
Alexander Noren	67-75-70	—212
Peter Hanson	69-73-71	—213
Geoff Ogilvy	75-69-69	—213
Chez Reavie	70-75-68	—213
Tetsuji Hiratsuka	72-70-72	—214
Thomas Bjorn	72-71-71	—214
Keith Home	71-70-73	—214
Chinnarat Phadungsil	71-69-74	—214
Jung-gon Hwang	72-72-70	—214
Jeev Milkha Singh	72-73-69	—214
Paul Lawrie	72-71-72	—215
Lucas Glover	76-68-71	—215
David Toms	68-76-71	—215
Hiroyuki Fujita	74-71-70	—215
Lee Slattery	76-71-68	—215
Siddikur Rahman	75-73-67	—215
Ernie Els	75-69-72	—216
Scott Stallings	70-74-72	—216
Wen-Chong Liang	72-73-71	—216
Michio Matsumura	74-71-71	—216
Darren Clarke	73-76-67	—216
D.A. Points	73-71-73	—217
David Gleeson	71-70-76	—217
Jim Herman	74-70-73	—217
Nick Watney	71-75-71	—217
Robert Karlsson	74-75-68	—217
Stuart Appleby	77-70-71	—218
Jim Furyk	78-68-73	—219
Ben Crane	75-71-74	—220
Michael Hoey	76-70-74	—220
S.S.P. Chowrasia	73-74-73	—220
Thomas Aiken	76-75-69	—220
Mark Wilson	71-73-77	—221
Pablo Martin	76-71-74	—221
Tom Lewis	78-71-72	—221
Kyung-tae Kim	73-77-71	—221
Kiradech Aphibarnrat	79-72-71	—222
Alistair Presnell	75-75-73	—223
Matteo Manassero	82-71-70	—223
Hao Yuan	72-78-74	—224
Chan Yih-shin	75-74-76	—225
Adam Bland	75-76-81	—232
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS		
LOCAL SCORES		
SHIRLEY'S STANDINGS		
PIC	4	1
Mobil	4	1
DFS	4	1
PSS	3	1
Fiesta	3	2
Wushin	2	3
GPPC	1	3
Grillin'	1	3
Hyatt	1	4
Shirley's	0	4



Ol'Aces top SML youth league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces clinched the championship in the 2011 SML Youth Baseball Summer/Fall League after slipping past Titanium in the winner-take-all finale, 3-2, last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.



Left fielder Frankie Camacho went 0-for-3 in his first three at bats, but bounced back from his lackluster performance at the plate, making the game-winning hit at the bottom of the seventh and last inning.

The bottom of the seventh started in a deadlock, 2-all, as Titanium had a quick 1-2-3 at the bottom with Palmerson Monkeya and Ton Guerrero flying out and Jerold Camacho having beaten at first base.

With Titanium failing to score, all the Ol'Aces needed was one run to wrap up the close match. Jake Sablan led off for the Ol'Aces at the bottom of the seventh and had a walk. Steven Cabrera, who relieved Brian Camacho on the mound at the bottom of the fifth, continued to struggle in the last inning. After walking Sablan, he committed back-to-back hit by pitch, bringing

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The Ol'Aces Harry Nakamura delivers a pitch during the top of the fifth inning of their title game against Titanium in the SML youth league last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Strong runs for MHS, Hopwood, and SCS

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Marianas High School, Saipan Community School, and Hopwood Junior High

School turned in strong results in Northern Marianas Athletics' second cross-country series.

The Dolphins swept the podium in the U18 boys division, while MHS took the first and third spots in the girls U18 category. Charles Bautista, Beouch Ngirchongor, and Inbum Choo gave MHS the Top 3 finish in the three-lap course that started and ended at the Civic Center in Susupe with runners heading to as far as the restroom across the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and returning to the start and finish line by running along the shore.

Bautista's 15 minutes and 55 seconds topped the field of 10 runners in the boys U18, while Ngirchongor and Choo submitted 16:28 and 18:05, respectively. Another MHS runner, Michael Mancao, led the race after two laps, but injured his ankle on his way back to the course for the final lap and did not finish the event.

In the girls U18, Chris Obaldo of MHS won with a time of 21:28, while Saipan Southern

See STRONG on Page 27



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hopwood Junior High School's Djaymarch Ong runs along the Civic Center shore in Susupe for the final lap of the boys U12 race in Northern Marianas Athletics' second cross-country series held last Saturday.

Mobil, FGC win GBL IT&E Cup debuts

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Four more teams debuted in the Garapan Basketball League IT&E Cup with Mobil and FGC winning their opening games last Friday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

In the curtain-raiser, FGC routed Andhok's, 72-59, while Mobil held off a fourth quarter rally by Proa to eke out an 82-81 victory.

Juan Maratita drilled the winning basket for Mobil, as he split his charities with one second left in the game. Maratita trooped to stripe after getting a pass from Jun Estolas in a transition play and drawing a foul from a Proa defender. The former Kagman High School stalwart made his first free throw and with only a second remaining on the clock intentionally muffed the second one.

Mobil led Proa in the first quarter, 20-16, thanks in part to Angelo Fernando's six points. The Marvin Deocares-coached Mobil stretched its advantage



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

FGC's Ron Gamboa drives against Andhok's Tim Wesley during their game in the GBL IT&E Cup last Friday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

to as much as 12 in the second period before finishing the first half with an eight-point cushion, 44-36. Jun Estolas heated up in the second quarter with nine markers.

Then at the start of the second half, Proa regrouped and managed to keep pace with Mobil. Seven Proa players stepped up in the third quarter to move within a basket, 58-60, heading into the final period.

The game remained close in the fourth period and eventually Mobil won it from the foul line.

Estolas paced Mobil with 17 points, while Maratita added 16. Dan Barcinas led Proa with 17 markers, too.

Meanwhile, FGC defeated Andhoks after a big third-quarter push. FGC was on top by only six at halftime, 34-28, when Kae Bernardo led the breakaway in the third, scoring eight points to lift his team to a 57-40 advantage.

Bernardo turned in a game-high 22 markers, while Dan Mateo led Andhoks with 15.

Bernardo and Ron Gamboa
See MOBIL on Page 27

Grillin' upsets PIC/NVM

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Grillin' barged into the win column in fashion, following a 91-84 upset over defending champion Pacific Islands Club/NVM last Saturday during the second game in the 3rd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

With Grillin' victory, PIC absorbed its first loss after a 4-0 start. The defending champion still leads the league, but now shares the top spot with Mobil and DFS, while Grillin' (1-3) moved up two notches from the cellar.

Lerio Pagarao and Sonny Lerio sizzled for Grillin', as they

scored 32 and 31 points in the seven-point victory. Pagarao drilled 12 of his total points in the fourth quarter, including five important free throws, to foil PIC's repeated comeback bids. Lerio added six and was 4-for-5 from the foul line in the payoff quarter.

The fourth period started with Grillin' ahead by double-digits, 69-59. PIC tried to come back behind the combined 12 points of siblings JR and Jessie Mina, but the defending champion ran out of time in the end as it failed to contain Pagarao and Lerio.

Lerio exploded early, firing 10 points, but PIC, which played without its several key players, hung in there and knotted the count, 22-all.

In the second canto, Grillin'
See GRILLIN' on Page 27